

THE JOURNAL

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Inside Saying good-bye to the beloved Waving Man [A3]

Inside Albany group stumping door-to-door to raise funds for schools [A7]

GROOVIN' ON A SATURDAY EVENING



HS STUDENTS put their talents to work at the March 16 Grove Fest at the Albany High School Little Theater. The event, which featured performances by student and professional musicians, was staged by the HS Music Boosters to raise funds in the wake of a school budget shortfall that has some programs with uncertain futures. Above are Eric Fuller, Sara Schultz, Eric and Garin Hect of the AHS Jazz Band. Right, AHS Junior member Jackson pays tribute to teacher Tom Lillenthal at the event. Students were slated to perform again at the Superintendent's Concert on Thursday. Next up is Clinic on April 1, in which some Northern California's best performers will volunteer to do creative training, followed by a "Musicians' Concert" for students and the general public in the HS Little Theater from 8-9 p.m. JENNIFER PAIGE/CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Albany and El Cerrito play connect-the-trails

■ Planning is proceeding with an effort to connect the Ohlone Greenway and the Bay Trail

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Richmond, Albany and El Cerrito are working on a plan that will create a trail between the Ohlone Greenway and the San Francisco Bay Trail for pedestrians and bicyclists.

A plan to create the connector between the popular trails and open space areas has been in the works for years and Albany and El Cerrito have been working to obtain grants to fix it

up for the last year, said Albany Community Development Director Ann Chaney.

Because the proposed trail would run through the three cities, El Cerrito entered into an agreement with Albany and Richmond to create the trail to run west from the Ohlone Greenway to the Bay Trail, probably following the Cerrito Creek path.

"The city is really enthusiastic about the potential for promoting access to a restored creek and enhancing pedestrian and bicycle trails within the city," said Carli Paine, a consultant for the El Cerrito community development department, "and we are very committed to working with various stakeholders in Albany

and Richmond to take this project from a concept to actuality."

In January, Albany received a \$100,000 grant to plan the trail from the regional planning agency the Association of Bay Area Governments. This week, the Albany City Council used \$55,250 of that money to hire a consultant to figure how and where the trail could be built. The plan is needed in order to apply for more grant money from federal, state and local agencies in order to fund the construction of the trail.

"We don't know exactly where (the trail is) going to go," said Chaney. "The creek is certainly

See TRAIL, Page A10

Albany schools lose 3rd official

■ The most recent administrator to resign oversaw district's budget

By Kara Shire
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — One by one, top administrators in this city's ailing school district have announced resignations and retirements.

On Tuesday, Walter Wallace, assistant superintendent for administrative services and classified personnel, added his name to the list.

"We really hate to lose him," said Superintendent Gary Mills.

Wallace, who oversaw the district's budget along with many other duties, is the third administrator to resign in three months.

Former deputy superintendent Wayne Padover kicked off the spate of departures with his December resignation.

Next came Mills, who announced in January that he will retire a year early. His last day on the job will be in June.

Wallace, the last of the district's top administrative team, will leave April 3 for his new post as school fiscal services and accountability administrator with the Solano County Office of Education.

"We're making a lot of changes, aren't we?" Mills said. Despite perceptions from the outside that the rapid-fire resignations may be a sign of trouble at the helm, Mills and Wallace say that's simply not the case.

"Albany is a hard place to work," Wallace said. "There's no doubt about it. And it's been a hard year. Teacher negotiations and finishing the high school in the same year (was tough)."

But, he said, his departure has more to do with his own desire

to hold a position centered on numbers and finance than it does the sometimes-heated politics of Albany schools.

As for the district's floundering budget, school board President David Farrell said the district isn't out of the red yet, but he said Wallace helped develop a blue print to build upon.

"I think Walter leaves us in good shape," Farrell said. "We have just been through a major cut, and he helped us through that significantly. It's not perfect. We still have several important issues we need to be working out, but I think Walter's left us in good shape to do that."

Wallace came to Albany schools from the San Bernardino County Office of Education in 2000. The district is beginning to look for an interim replacement for his position.

Del Norte development proposal draws fire from residents, council

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The City Council and residents offered criticism, skepticism and contradictions to a working plan to develop parking lots at the Del Norte BART station at the Monday City Council meeting. Eight residents spoke against the plan, saying that it had too much high-density housing and too few parking spaces.

"There is a possibility to do something worthwhile, but this isn't it," said resident Peter Loubal.

Plans have been in the works

to develop the two 8.4-acre parcels of land at the Del Norte BART station since the 1970s, according to Mark Gillem, the architect working on the project. The developer, CFC Corporation, has been in agreement with BART, the land owner, to develop the site since 1994.

Most recently, Gillem has been working with about 100 residents in workshops to find out what people want to see on the land, which is comprised of two parking lots and adjacent property, bounded by San Pablo Avenue, Key Boulevard, Hill Street and Knott Avenue.

Gillem set off protests after it was revealed that there would be 348 units of high-density (44 units an acre) housing. Residents contradicted developer Charlie Oewel of CFC Corporation, who said that "the highest priority was high-density housing, that's what we heard loud and clear from the workshop series."

"I don't recall, certainly not what I heard from the workshop, that as residents, we wanted high-density housing," said resident Sean Kelley.

The rest of the plan includes

See DEL NORTE, Page A8

Neighborhood sees a spectacular but scary electrical light show

By Chris Treadway
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — "Fireball" is the most common — if technically inaccurate — description that struck several blocks of

residences Saturday.

PG&E workers said it would be more accurate to call it something more mundane — a short circuit. But fireball is a more fitting description for the large white/blue surge of energy that visibly travelled along power lines from Berkeley to El Cerrito and back, knocking out power in its wake and leaving downed lines for almost 24 hours on a cold March day.

It all started with a blown transformer at Cedar and 10th streets in Berkeley that led to crossed 12,000-volt lines that started a fire at a fourplex and sent a massive surge out on the

grid.

The surge should have ended at the El Cerrito substation on Schmidt Lane, but a breaker failed to trip, according to a PG&E worker.

The surge continued along lines and overwhelmed portions of the grid on Pomona and Colusa avenues, shattering insulators, downing lines and setting some poles aflame.

An El Cerrito police officer said there were five lines down in that city alone.

Residents, drawn by a sound described as "like a gravel truck," or the rumble preceding an earthquake, went to their win-

dows or opened their doors to see a surge that one resident said was "as big as a car" going down the street. Calls quickly went out to 911.

According to witnesses, it was followed by another, directionally challenged surge that reached the intersection of Pomona and Eureka avenues, going back and forth before deciding to hang a left toward Colusa.

Police and fire crews arrived and barricaded part of the 700 and 800 blocks of Pomona, where two lines were down and two utility poles were smoldering, one with visible flame.

The phenomenon had neigh-

bors agape and talking among themselves and with fire and police personnel well into the evening.

In all, more than 8,000 homes in Berkeley, Albany and El Cerrito were left without power, with service on Pomona Avenue not restored until some 23 hours after the fireball passed through.

A PG&E lineman said he had seen such surges before, and that the danger is high, adding, "If you're on a pole and you see that coming, you can't get down fast enough."

Readers: We want to hear from you

The Cerrito Theater's fate hangs in the balance — will this bit of El Cerrito's art deco history become a movie house again, or end up as a discount-mattress store? Should the city help restore and run it, or should the matter rest in private hands?

We want to know what you think. So write to us. Try to be concise — 250 words or less — but do write. For how to reach us, see Opinion inside, page A4.

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WORTH CHECKING OUT

Republican women meet

El Cerrito Mayor Janet Abelson will speak on "Transportation in the Bay Area" at the Kensington Area Republican Women Luncheon meeting on March 27 at the Mira Vista Country Club, 7900 Cutting Blvd., El Cerrito. Social hour is at noon, lunch is served at 12:30 p.m. Abelson is acting chair of West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee. For reservations call Catherine at 510-524-5889. Lunch is \$14 per person and checks should be written to KARW. Deadline for reservations is March 23.

Cafe Eclectica shows

Cafe Eclectica, 1309 Solano Ave. in Albany, hosts two more shows for all ages this weekend. Tonight's bill is a three bands for \$3 show featuring THETEETHE, The Natural Dreamers, and Yasi. Saturday night brings a hip-hop event with all guest DJs and MCs proving their skills and a freestyle battle starting at 10:30 p.m. Admission Saturday is \$3 with a high school idea and \$5 without. Doors open at 7 p.m. and show starts at 8 p.m. both nights. Details: 510-527-2344

ECHS blood drive

El Cerrito High School holds its spring blood drive today in the little gym and asks anyone in the community who would like to donate blood to contact leadership advisor Nancy Boissevain at 510-525-0234. The drive begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:45 p.m. Stop.

dents are hoping to break the school record for donations.

Creek and Bay pollution

Lake Merritt's LakeKeeper, Dr. Richard Bailey, will speak about urban runoff and what can be done about this most serious source of Bay Area water pollution at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 1, at the Albany Community Center, 1240 Marin Ave. For more information contact Friends of Five Creeks at 510 848 9358, f5creeks@aol.com, or www.five-creeks.org.

Sound & Movement

"The Languages of Sound & Movement," a Celebrating Culture & Community series being shown on local cable television is featuring "Kalanjall: Dances of India" on CCTV (Contra Costa Television, Channel 27 in West County and Albany. Do those dancers' hand movements and facial expressions actually mean something? Why do they have red painted on their foreheads, hands and feet? And how fast can that drummers' hands move? Discover the answer to these questions, and enjoy the sheer beauty of southern Indian classical dance and music on the Indian episode of the series, directed by Richard R. Lee and produced by Eve A. Ma.

ECDC meeting

The public is invited to attend the upcoming meeting of the El Cerrito De-

mocratic Club at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26, at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. in El Cerrito. It follows the general business meeting of the Club at 7:30 p.m. There will be a discussion of the ECDC's issues agenda for the upcoming year and scheduling of endorsements for city council, school board, and he November general election. Details: Joe Franzese, 510-524-4659.

Preschool stories

The Albany Library presents "Saturday Morning Stories and More" for ages 3-6. The free series runs every Saturday at 11 a.m. through March 16. Details: 510-526-3720.

LWV meeting

Former Richmond mayor Rosemary Corbin, is the speaker at the Richmond Area League of Women Voters meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 16. The lunch will be at LaStrada Restaurant, 2215 Church Lane at San Pablo Avenue, San Pablo. Deadline for reservations is April 9. Make checks payable to the League of Women Voters Richmond Area, and mail to Jean Lipton 5917 Columbia Ave., Richmond, CA 94804. Your choice of pasta, chicken or fish does not have to be decided until you reach La Strada. All welcome. League members are encouraged to invite guests. Questions: Jean Lipton 510-525-8155.

POLICE REPORTS

Bicycle stolen off resident's porch

By K. Osborn
CORRESPONDENT

ALBANY — At about 11 p.m. on March 12 a resident on the 900 block of Kains Avenue reported that within the previous two hours thieves had stolen a bicycle off her porch.

■ On the morning of March 13 a resident on the 900 block of Kains Avenue reported that thieves had stolen her silver '97 Honda.

■ On the afternoon of March 13 a resident on the 500 block of Curtis Street reported that vandals had slashed the tire of his blue Toyota Tacoma.

■ At about 1:30 a.m. on March 14 a resident on the 1100 block of Kains Avenue reported that a thief entered his open garage and stole items from his unlocked black Toyota. He happened upon the subject who fled on a bike when confronted.

■ On the morning of March 14 a resident at 555 Pierce St. reported that thieves had stolen his gold '94 Jaguar.

■ Just before midnight on March 14 officers responded to reports of a car alarm going off. Upon investigation, they found a black '98 Dodge with the rear window smashed out but there was no one around.

■ On the morning of March 15 a resident on the 1000 Curtis Street reported that during the night thieves broke into his green Honda Civic and unsuccessfully attempted to steal the in-dash stereo.

■ On March 15 a resident on the 900 block of Curtis Street reported that thieves broke into his gray '89 Volvo SW by smashing the rear passenger window and stole his in-dash stereo and other items.

■ On March 15 a resident on the 1100 block of Marin Avenue reported that thieves broke into his white '02 Chevrolet the previous night.

■ On March 16 a resident on the 600 block of San Carlos Street reported that thieves had stolen her Moped from her yard.

■ At about 4 p.m. on March 16 a resident on the 600 block of Madison Street reported that a subject in a red Honda had followed him home and was sitting in the car in front of his home. Officers contacted the subject, a 47-year-old Hercules man, and a check found he had a suspended license. A search of his vehicle found stolen property and drug paraphernalia. He was arrested for theft, petty theft, repeated offenses of theft, buying stolen property and possession of a controlled substance. He was cited and transported to Santa Rita jail.

■ On the evening of March 16 officers investigated a report of three adults stealing several DVDs from a video store on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue. They were last seen leaving in a gray vehicle.

■ At about 12:30 a.m. on March 17 officers stopped a gray '86 Toyota Camry on San Pablo Avenue near Monroe Street for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 42-year-old Richmond man, was found to be intoxicated. He was arrested for DUI.

■ At about 3:30 a.m. on March 17 officers responded to the Safeway Store on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue on reports of three subjects observed stealing several cartons of cigarettes. They were last seen leaving the area in a large blue sedan.

■ During the night of March

17 vandals covered the front of a church on the 1000 Solano Avenue with graffiti. Anti-religious nature of the night vandals also spray-painted on a house on the 1000 of Spokane Avenue.

■ On the morning of March 18 a resident on the 600 block of Washington Avenue reported that during the night thieves stole a white '88 Toyota Camry. The vehicle, which was damaged and stripped. The vehicle was located and returned.

■ At about 3 a.m. on March 18 officers noticed a Chevrolet on the 1000 Pierce Street that appeared to have been vandalized. The vehicle was located and returned.

■ Officers located a Mazda on the 800 block of Lynn Avenue on March 18. It had been reported as stolen from a Richmond man. The owner was located and the vehicle was returned.

■ On the morning of March 18 officers noticed a vehicle that appeared to be a parking lot behind the Theater. The 19-year-old man was arrested, passing, cited and released.

During the week of March 18 officers towed two vehicles sponded to eight false calls tended to four lost or stolen animals, and assisted five people who were locked out of their house or car. In the arena, officers responded to civil disturbances and 14 calls. Officers stopped 14 vehicles or persons issuing 34 and 34 warnings. Five medical medics responded to one and nine medical emergencies.

Anniversary gala to benefit Chamber

SEWALL GLINTERNICK
El Cerrito Chamber

PLANS FOR A June 14 Anniversary Ball — featuring a black-tie gala evening of cocktails, casino gambling, raffle, auctions, formal dinner and dancing high atop the El Cerrito hills at the Mira Vista Golf & Country Club — were announced this week.

The event will commemorate the 85th anniversary of the founding of the City of El Cerrito.

Event co-chairs Christopher Reutz and Kathleen J. Perka said they hope to make the ball "one of the most important social events of the year — one that will be regarded as a must-do affair for years to come."

"El Cerrito has a proud history and tradition as well as a dynamic and promising future that is cause for celebration," they said in a statement.

With the approval of the Chamber's Board of Directors, invitations will be going out soon to area businesses and civic leaders requesting they demonstrate their early support for this project by becoming sponsors or by purchasing individual tickets.

Tentative plans have a 6 p.m. start for the event. On arrival, guests will have their choice of enjoying beverages in the Ballroom Bar, playing casino games in the Ballroom or Oak Room, or participating in a silent auction.

At 8 p.m. guests will sit down to a formal dinner with tables arranged on the dance floor. A live swing/jazz dance band will play during and after dinner. During dessert and coffee there will be a live auction, concluding with the awarding of gaming and raffle prizes.

Dancing will continue until midnight.

Opening postponed

The grand opening of the Cold Stone Creamery ice cream store in El Cerrito Plaza, originally scheduled for mid-March, has been postponed until



COURTESY EL CERRITO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER MANAGER Sewall Glinternick, president Marge Collins and past president Bill Kerber flank winning jockey Russell Baze at the group's recent day at Golden Gate Fields racetrack.

til sometime in April. The opening had to be rescheduled due to construction delays, said owners Art and Los Reckless. The store, which recently joined the Chamber, is part of the fastest growing ice cream franchise in the nation, one becoming famous for its ice cream, yogurt and Italian sorbet, all hand-crafted daily in every store.

The opening promises to be a festive affair, with Mayor Janet Abelson and other community notables expected to attend. Neighbors, residents and students from Harding Elementary will be invited to attend and enjoy free ice cream.

Lunch deadline today

Members and guests who want to hear the latest news about what's happening at El Cerrito Plaza have until the close of business today to make reservations for the Chamber's monthly business luncheon on March 26.

The guest speaker will be new Plaza manager Laurinda Stout, who will give an update and answer audience questions.

Reservations for the luncheon at Mira Vista Golf & Country Club can be made at 510-233-7040.

Help with Earth Day

Members are reminded that there is still time to both fund and participate in El Cerrito's 2002 Earth Day observance, co-sponsored by the Chamber, the city and Sustainable El Cerrito.

Letters have already gone out to members inviting them and their employees to join community volunteers April 20 in cleaning up creeks, parks, schools and city streets. Volunteers will be feted at a noon barbecue luncheon at the Community Center. Merchants are being asked to donate funds

See CHAMBER, Page A6

Attempted robbery includes threat of shooting on San Pablo Avenue

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — A Richmond man was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting at a store on the 11400 block of San Pablo Avenue on March 15 at 9:10 p.m. The man was booked into the county jail on suspicion of felony petty theft with prior convictions.

■ A woman was arrested at 6:35 p.m. on March 15 on suspicion of shoplifting at an El Cerrito Plaza store. The woman was booked into the county jail on suspicion of felony petty theft with prior convictions.

■ A man was arrested on suspicion of attempted robbery and threats after a victim told police that the man tried to rob him and then threatened to shoot him when the victim refused to hand over any money. Police responded to the incident at 7:46 p.m. on March 17 on the 11200 block of San Pablo Avenue, and arrested the suspected robber a short distance away.

■ A man was arrested at 2:45 p.m. on March 12 after it was reported that he tried to steal items from a store on the 10600 block of San Pablo Avenue. The man was arrested and booked into the county jail for felony theft with prior convictions.

■ A woman was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting at a store on the

11500 block of San Pablo Avenue at 3:10 p.m. on March 12. Police found the woman a short distance away from the store and arrested her after she was identified by store employees. All of the stolen property was recovered and the woman was booked into the county jail for felony petty theft with prior convictions.

■ Residents on the 5500 block of Macdonald Avenue reported to police at 5:33 p.m. on March 1 that their home was burglarized.

■ A case of CDs was reported taken from a vehicle on the 9900 block of San Pablo Avenue at 4:06 p.m. on March 13.

■ It was reported to police at 4:16 p.m. on March 13 that a backpack containing clothing was taken from a vehicle and an unlocked bicycle was taken from a home on the 3400 block of Yosemite Avenue.

■ Two bikes were reported taken from a garage on the 5500 block of Macdonald Avenue on March 11 at 10:46 a.m.

■ It was reported at 7:46 a.m. on March 11 that a CD player was taken from a vehicle on the 700 block of Colusa Avenue.

■ Two men were arrested on the 10200 block of San Pablo Avenue on suspicion of racing their vehicles on March 9 at 12:20 a.m.

■ It was reported at 11:53 a.m. on March 10 that the right front tire of a vehicle was removed from a vehicle parked on the 900 block of Liberty Street.

■ It was reported on March 10 that cash register was taken from cash register restaurant on the 10100 San Pablo Avenue. The entered the building by a drive-through window.

■ Property was reported moved from a vehicle 10900 block of San Pablo Avenue on March 5 at 10:15 p.m.

■ A woman knocked merchandise display causing property damage at a store on the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue. She was refused a merchandise change on March 11 at 10:15 p.m.

■ It was reported on March 11 that property taken from a vehicle parked in the 7400 block of Solano Avenue.

■ A cellphone was stolen from a vehicle parked in the 3300 block of California Avenue on March 12 at 7:27 p.m.

■ A Honda Accord was reported stolen from the 1000 block of Liberty Street on March 8:25 p.m.

■ It was reported on 1 p.m. on March 15 that an up truck was stolen from the 1000 block of Lexington Avenue.

■ A man struck a woman with a pipe while she was in the 1200 block of Adeline Avenue on March 9 at 6:55 p.m. The man was hiding in a car and jumped out and threatened the woman.

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BRIEF

Commission offering grants to local groups

MARTINEZ — The Contra Costa Children and Families Commission is offering \$175,000 in Proposition 10 funds to support local community improvement projects that will benefit families with children up to age 5, and is looking for applicants from the West Contra Costa area. Non-profit organizations and community groups are eligible to apply for a \$5,000 Family-Friendly Community Grant for projects that provide enrichment activities for parents and children or improve community safety.

Family-Friendly Community Grants provide small sums of money for parents and community members to take action and make the changes for young children that are important for their communities, said commission executive director Brenda Blasingame. "The projects funded by the Commission's Family-Friendly grants are chosen by the people who know what's best, and what works, for their neighborhoods."

Previous grants have funded projects including parent seminars on proper smoke alarm use; CPR and first aid training; and swimming lessons and water safety training for preschoolers.

Applicants must attend a commission-sponsored information workshop where they will learn about the application process and refine their ideas. Spanish translation and child care will be offered at workshops. "We realize that many community members have never applied for a grant before," said Blasingame. "The workshops are designed to explain the grant application process and help community members transform a great idea into a successful project." Grant applications are due May 1. Applications will be available at the workshops and can be previewed online at www.cckids.org. Applications can be mailed out by request by calling 925-335-9991.

Bala fundraiser for college scholarships

EL CERRITO — The Friends of El Cerrito High School host their annual fundraiser, the ninth annual Casino Night and Silent Auction, from 7-11 p.m. on April 12 at the El Cerrito Community Center, 700 Mooser Lane, El Cerrito.

Support the high school's most successful fundraiser at a fun-filled night of great food, music, dancing, silent auction and games. Tickets are only \$25 or \$40 for two and include hors d'oeuvres, desserts, a chance to win prizes and free games. You can reserve tickets in advance or purchase them at the door. A DJ will provide music for dancing, a silent auction will take place all evening and a cash bar and wine bar will be open. A donation of \$200 sponsors a gaming table and sponsorships for 1/4 or 1/2 tables are also available. Proceeds support college scholarships and materials for school programs.

To buy tickets, become a sponsor or donate prizes call Janet Knight at 510-525-3272 or e-mail bbaker4329@aol.com.

Daffy Dave' coming to Kensington Library

KENSINGTON — Come to the Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, to watch "Daffy Dave" perform goofy tricks and stunts around. All ages are welcome. Attendance is limited and free tickets are being issued during open library hours. The Kensington Library is located at 61 Arlington Ave. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library.

The library is open from 1-6 p.m. Mondays, from noon-8 p.m. Tuesdays, closed Wednesdays, open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays, from 1-5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, regularly closed on Sundays and holidays. The phone number is 510-524-3043.

Annual rhododendron show is April 13-14

OAKLAND — The California Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society is holding its annual Rhododendron Show and Sale, the only rhododendron show in the Bay Area, from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday April 13 and 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 14. The show features thousands of rhododendron blooms on display, a wide selection of plants for sale at discount prices and exchange on growing them. Hard-to-find tropical rhododendrons types suited to Bay Area climates will be available, as well as rare favorites.

The show is at the Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland. Admission is free. Details: 510-482-4473.

Hunger Hike in Joaquin Miller Park

OAKLAND — Enjoy a scenic hike through the East Bay redwoods while raising money to help people in need. Join the Alameda County Community Food Bank on Saturday, March 23 for a 5K "Hunger Hike" in Joaquin Miller Park. Meet at the park's Ranger Station, 2000 Sanborn Drive (off Joaquin Miller Road). Registration starts at 9 a.m.; hike begins at 10 a.m. Registration is \$20 per person; \$10 per group of 10 or more. Hikers are also encouraged to collect food. Funds raised will benefit the Food Bank's hunger relief efforts. Snacks, water and commemorative T-shirt provided; hikers also have a chance to win Southwest Airlines gift certificates. To register advance or for a pledge form, call 510-834-3663, ext. 327 or www.secondharvest.org.

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SPORCHER
An American Standard

Who was Joseph W. Charles? The Berkeley Waving Man, of course

By Martin Snapp
CORRESPONDENT

It's the end of an era: Joseph W. Charles, the beloved Berkeley Waving Man, passed away at Kaiser Hospital in Oakland last Thursday, a week before his 92nd birthday.

"The Waving Man" was just one of the names he was known by. Some called him "Mr. Goodday," after one of his trademark greetings: "Have a good day!" Others called him "Mr. Smiles," after his other greeting, "Keep smiling!" Still others called him "Charley Wavesalot."

For exactly 30 years — from Oct. 6, 1962, to Oct. 6, 1992 — Mr. Charles got up every morning, donned his trademark yellow construction worker's gloves, and waved to the cars passing by his home on the corner of Oregon and Martin Luther King.

In the process, he became beloved. People, who were little kids when he first began waving grew up and drove their own kids past his house, so they could wave to the Waving Man, too.

"He was a Berkeley legend and a local treasure," says Mayor Shirley Dean. "He brought a smile to everyone who knew him."

"He was a joyful person who loved people, and they loved him right back," says former mayor Lori Hancock. "Seeing him every morning was a great way to start the day."

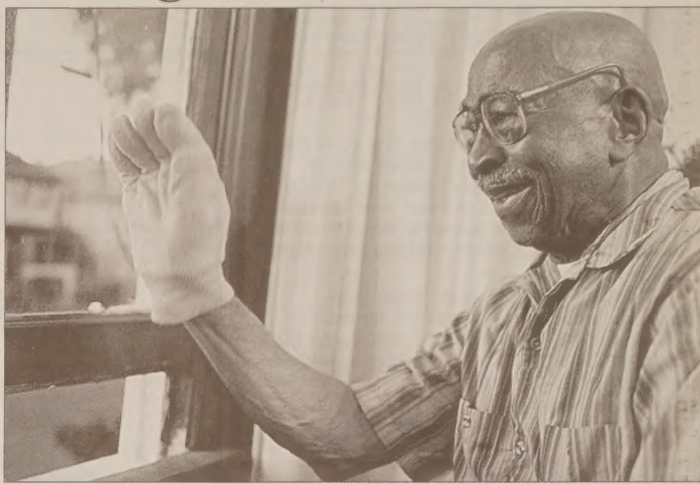
"I started waving to him in 1979," recalls his good friend, Judge Julie Conger. "Even when my son, Zak, was only 1 year old, he used to stand up in his car seat and roll his arms, just the way Mr. Charles did. Another time, my daughter, Dylan, said to me, 'Mommy, it's like having a blessing bestowed on us every day we drive by.'"

In gratitude, Berkeley declared an official "Joseph W. Charles Day" no less than seven times over the years. Following news of his death, the City Council also adjourned in his memory on Tuesday.

But his devotees weren't confined to Berkeley. People in Oakland, Albany, El Cerrito and Richmond would drive miles out of their way, just so they could start their morning by waving to the Waving Man.

And he got fan mail from all over the world, including England, Australia and, especially, Germany. One German admirer's message was typical: "Dear Mr. Waving Man, Thank you for cheering me up every day when I was an exchange student at Cal."

Mr. Charles was born March 22, 1910, in Lake Charles, La. As a young man he played in the Negro Leagues, managing and playing second base for the Lake Charles Black Yankees. Once, he even battled against Satchel Paige when the great pitcher came through town on a barnstorming



JOSEPH CHARLES, the waving man, waving to Christmas carollers singing to him in 1999.

tour. He struck out on three straight pitches.

"But I got a foul tip," he said proudly, "which was better than anyone else did that day."

In 1942 he joined the great African-American migration from the deep South to the Bay Area, where he helped build Liberty ships at the Kaiser shipyards in Richmond. After World War II he went to work as a longshoreman at the Oakland Naval Supply Center, where he remained until his retirement in 1971.

In 1962, he and his wife, Flora, moved into their house in Berkeley. Shortly thereafter, he was raking leaves in the side yard when one of his neighbors — a Filipino man — waved to him.

"So I waved back," Mr. Charles recollected. "The next day, he waved to me again. And I waved back again. On the third day, he came to me and told he was moving back to the Philippines. But I enjoyed waving so much, I didn't want to quit. So I decided to move to the front yard and wave to everyone."

Not everyone took to it at first. "A woman from our church called my wife and said, 'Flora, do you know what that fool of a husband of yours is doing? He's outside your house, waving to strangers!'"

"So my wife leaned out the window and yelled, 'Joseph! Come on in here! You must be going crazy!'"

She remained skeptical for several years, until the media picked up on the story. Mr. Charles was profiled on "Real People," "The NBC Nightly News," "The CBS News With Walter Cronkite," and "Ripley's Believe It Or Not."

"After that," said Mr. Charles, "she decided that maybe what I was doing wasn't so crazy, after

all." Some of the neighbors took a bit more convincing; they called the cops. But when the officers arrived, they took one look and started laughing.

"Go ahead Mr. Charles," they said. "You just keep on waving for as long as you want."

Mrs. Charles died in 1982, and Mr. Charles turned their house into a shrine to her. The place was always immaculate ("just the way she would have wanted it," he used to say). And the dining room was always set with her favorite flatware, crystal and china.

Pictures of her adorned every wall, along with those of his sons, Stanford and Joe Jr. (who, unfortunately, predeceased him); grandchildren Robert, Marc, Dominic, Sherrill, Antoinette and Mary; great-grandchildren Nialah Charles, Dominic Charles II, Desiree Charles, Robert Charles, Jr., Deshawn Freeman, Charles Kimball, Rochelle Harris and Antoinette Pitts; and great-great-granddaughter Kiera Charles.

He also served as surrogate grandfather to all the children in the neighborhood, whose parents felt safe when their kids played in his front yard because they knew Mr. Charles would be looking after them.

Mr. Charles retired from waving in 1992 and donated his yellow waving gloves to the Berkeley Historical Society Museum. He quit because his declining health wouldn't permit him to perform every day up to his own strict standards.

But he stayed active in the community. He was the Grand Marshall of both the Solano Stroll and the How-Berkeley-Can-You-Be? Parade. And every year at Christmas time, his friends and neighbors gathered outside his house to

serenade him with Christmas carols.

In 1987, to celebrate Mr. Charles' 25th anniversary, the city considered installing a plaque on the corner where he stood. But the Department of Public Works vetoed the idea, saying it would cost too much money. So the city renamed the tennis courts across the street as the "Joseph W. Charles Tennis Courts," instead. (Not that he was a big tennis fan, but at least he could look at the sign every day from his front window.)

But an even better tribute came in 1992, a few months before he retired. A stranger knocked on his front door and said, "You don't know me, Mr. Charles, but my wife and I have been having a lot of problems, and we've been thinking of getting a divorce. But after driving by your house every day and seeing your positive outlook on life, we've decided to try and give it another try."

"The nicest part," Mr. Charles recalled later, "is that a few days later, the wife came by and told me the same thing."

Mr. Charles outlived his wife, his children, and two of his personal physicians. But not his fame, which will endure forever.

Today would have been his 92nd birthday. Instead, it's the day of his funeral. The service will be at 11 a.m. at McGee Avenue Baptist Church, on the corner of McGee and Stuart, followed by interment at Evergreen Cemetery in Oakland.

It's a sad day, but Mr. Charles would have told us to be happy, too — happy that he was able to cram so much love into one lifetime.

"Keep smiling," he would say. "And have a good day."

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Opinion

The Cerrito Theater: Let your voice be heard

The clock is ticking as the City of El Cerrito tries to devise ways to save and re-open the space formerly known as the Cerrito Theater. We want to hear your ideas. Should the city take subscriptions? Hold a pledge drive? Is it worth making any effort at all?

This page is your forum. Write your thoughts and send them to us, by mail at P.O. Box 1624, El Cerrito, CA 94530; via fax at 510-243-3575 or by e-mail at journal@cc-times.com. Please keep responses concise: 250 words or less.

EDITORIAL

Neighborhood rises to the occasion

LAST WEEKEND'S electrical "fireball" doesn't qualify as a disaster of any scale and many residents, in fact, might not have even heard about it.

But as typically happens, whether it's a major earthquake or an electrical overload of the type that occurred Saturday, such situations tend to bring out the best in people.

Neighbors on Pomona Avenue on Saturday did more than just notify emergency personnel and the electrical utility. They kept watch, exchanged information, kept kids and the curious away from downed lines and debris, checked in with elderly neighbors who might need assistance during the prolonged outage of power and heat, made sure the people next door had candles or batteries during the dark night.

It isn't a neighborhood particularly trained for an emergency, but in this instance it was a neighborhood ready to help. It's an important trait in a time of uncertainty when many people are already on edge. And it's a trait that wasn't confined to just the neighborhood residents, either. Police and fire personnel arrived promptly and monitored burning power poles into the wee hours. PG&E crews went to work around 4 a.m. replacing insulators on poles and making inspections 25 feet in the air in pouring rain, working through until after 4 p.m. and all the while answering residents' questions as best they could.

Seeing and hearing the almost blinding surge of electricity was a jarring incident for many residents, but one that brought out the qualities a neighborhood should have.

Being neighborly is hardly out of the ordinary, but sometimes it deserves a pat on the back. This was one of those times.

Flawed smog attack

THE LATEST ATTEMPT to get the Bay Area to impose stricter smog checks comes from a group of Central Valley lawmakers who claim Bay Area cars share the blame for poor air quality in the Central Valley. They have a point, but it's a small one.

The main causes of poor air quality in the Central Valley are geography and relatively unfettered development. Like the Los Angeles basin, the Central Valley is susceptible to air pollution because of the lack of air circulation and high temperatures in summer.

Suburban sprawl is taking over much of the valley. Housing development is outpacing jobs, forcing many to commute into the Bay Area, causing more pollution.

Before Central Valley legislators or litigants try to pass laws or win lawsuits against the Bay Area, they should look closer to home. State air quality regulators and Bay Area officials say the bulk of the valley's problems are its own and that cleaner cars in the Bay Area won't significantly improve valley air quality.

Richard Varenchik of the California Air Resources Board, said, "You could get rid of all the cars in the Bay Area and the San Joaquin Valley would still be a very serious non-attainment area (for air quality)."

Valley officials often cite a 1990 test that found on a particular day that 27 percent of the smog in the Stockton area was produced from pollution coming from the Bay

See EDITORIAL, Page A7

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Get involved

Betty Buginas hit the nail on the head in her March 1 column when she suggested that current school accountability demands be replaced by a "Take Responsibility Movement."

There are simple steps that can be taken to get questions answered and have correct information.

In my role as an interested community member, concerned parent, and teacher in the school district, I visit and volunteer at schools, attend school and district meetings, and become a member of committees.

I get familiar with the real issues and everyone involved with our local schools, from students to county supervisors and the Contra Costa County Office of Education. Our 53 campuses are outdated and over-crowded, and the state and federal governments haven't fully funded schools in decades.

The district hires a bond management team and architects because they don't and shouldn't have the personnel on staff to do the work. Our children deserve the careful planning of Measure M work.

The Bayside Council of PTAs endorsed Measure D. Many thanks to all the community members who started the Take Responsibility Movement with their "yes" vote for Measure D.

Linda Takimoto
El Cerrito

Takimoto is president of Bayside Council of PTAs and a member of the Measure M Bond Committee.

Changes necessary

Lowering taxes to the wealthy and businesses does little to create jobs. Jobs are created when businesses see the need to provide more services or produce more goods.

Lowering taxes isn't going to create that unless money goes directly to those who will spend it to produce more need for goods and services.

Extending unemployment benefits is perhaps the best way.

Those who are laid off must find other employment or develop a new source of income so that what happened won't occur again. Everyone has multiple talents and abilities that can be used to develop a new source of income to fill a need someone will pay for.

Keeping taxes where they are and spending the money to improve public infrastructure will create jobs, but not quickly enough. It takes time to plan and negotiate contracts to do the work. That delay pushes the new jobs past the end of the recession.

In the final analysis, it's up to businesses and individuals to change their ways of doing business and change their lives to bring about an end to the recession.

Stephen Jory

Worth preserving

Friends of the Cerrito Theater is backing efforts to preserve this historic cinema. We'd like the city buy the building and lease it to a theater operator. We believe Oakland's Parkway Theater might still be interested.

Saving the Cerrito Theater is more than an economic issue. The city should not simply try to pencil out its costs and dollar benefits to see whether the theater is worth saving. That short-sighted strategy ignores the much greater historical, artistic and community benefits of saving this wonderful building.

Economics is an important issue, of course. A theater would have a significant economic benefit on the neighborhood, would stimulate development, attract restaurants and cafes, and bring attention to the area.

But there are at least two other perhaps more significant aspects:

■ The historic and artistic: This is one of the most historic and artistically important buildings in El Cerrito. Its value goes way beyond the dollar-and-cents worth of simply serving as a theater. As a historic building with intrinsic value, its value will only increase with time.

Art deco theaters will be much rarer in the future than they are now. Its historical value will increase exponentially. Who can tell what uses the building will serve in 50 or 100 years? A museum? A community space?

■ The benefit to the community: Just as the theater would boost business in the area, it would boost community pride and provide El Cerrito with a place on the Bay Area map. People would recognize the theater marquee; would come to town to admire the murals and the art deco ambience. El Cerrito would have an enhanced sense of place and something to be proud of. It would also retain an important part of its cultural history.

David Weinstein
El Cerrito

Dismal performance

Is it me, or does anyone else question why Albany Middle School, this supposed paragon of education, fails again and again to provide quality education any for so many students?

I have a child currently attending the school. It is a nightmare. Ridiculous standards that the average student seems unable to meet are the norm here. This has gotten so much worse in recent years, since I have had children attending there since 1991.

Perhaps, instead of patting these teachers on the back for Project Second Chance, this breakthrough program, you might want to ask why it is necessary to even have a program of this sort.

The Albany school system is all hype

Berkeley and no substance.

Bonnie Schell
Albany

Pushing a dead horse

This drive to save the historic Cerrito Theater is driven by Lori Dair. She wrote that very promising negotiations with the owners of the Parkway Theater in Oakland recently stalled. It sounds like an estimate of \$1 million to refurbish the theater was made.

Why is Dair so gung-ho to lead a group of El Cerrito residents, like a Piper, knowing this is not a viable project unless public (city funds) are used?

If the city wants to add to its financial woes, just get involved with this dead horse.

Roy Hagedorn
El Cerrito

A great success

March 1 was a very proud day for the West County community and local public schools.

On that day, hundreds of volunteers from all walks of the community came out to children in virtually every school in the school district as part of the National Education Association's "Read Across America."

This year, the Community Alliance for Public Education (CAPE) made community participation in the event a priority, as part of our new West County Reads! literacy campaign — and the community responded.

We estimate that more than 400 people stepped forward to read aloud in local schools, perhaps four times more than in previous years. As a result, nearly every young child in local public schools was read to by an adult.

Also impressive was the way that elementary schools, staff members and teachers welcomed the "readers."

United Teachers of Richmond and Diane Draper, its vice president, gave special recognition for coordinating the event, which truly demonstrated the power of the community, teachers and school administrators working cooperatively together.

Through our West County Reads! campaign, CAPE hopes to build upon the success of March 1 and encourages West County to maintain the focus on children's literacy as an ongoing community priority.

There are many ways community can help year-round. To find out more about such opportunities, consult our page: westcountyreads.org.

Congratulations, West County! Thank you!

J. Kevin Hagedorn
San Francisco

Hufferd is Community Alliance for Public Education chairman.

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"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Waving Man's final years were not what he deserved

AS YOU probably know, Joseph Charles, the Berkeley Waving Man, died last week, after a lifetime of bringing smiles to others. What you don't know — what this is something Mr. Charles asked me not to write while he was still alive — that for the last few years he was a virtual prisoner in his own home. He was scared to open his door to anyone except family and a few trusted friends, and with good reason. He started about 10 years ago when he was hit on the head by a mugger while gardening in his front yard. That was bad enough to send him to hospital. A few months later, a young man knocked on his door, claiming to be a film crew who wanted to make a documentary about him. When he let them in, they beat him up and stole his money. About a year after that, a



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

woman and a little girl showed up on his doorstep. "Mister," said the woman, "can my daughter please use your bathroom?"

While he was showing the little girl where the bathroom was, the "mother" rifled through his belongings and stole his valuables, including some of his late wife Flora's favorite jewelry.

You can understand why he became reluctant to open the door. Then the phone calls from phony telemarketers started, night after night. Soon, he didn't even want to answer the phone. He felt like he was

under siege.

The reason he asked me not to write about this while he was still alive was that he didn't want me to advertise his vulnerability any further. Not unreasonably, he was concerned that other bad guys would read it and target him as an easy mark. But he had no objection to my writing about it now, after he's gone, because he wanted to help other old people avoid the same fate. That's the kind of man he was.

Have I made you angry yet? I sure hope so. To think that this wonderful old man, who gave so much to so many for so long, should be victimized like this makes my blood boil. If we had the death penalty for robbing old people, I'd gladly volunteer for the firing squad.

The problem is, it's so hard to catch the bad guys. They may be the scum of the Earth, but they're experts at striking

quickly and then melting back into the shadows.

Door-to-door scam artists are usually from another state. They come into our community for a day, steal everything they can, then hightail it back over the state line before the cops even know they were here.

Telemarketing thieves set up their boiler rooms in one state, use the telephone lines in a second state, and target their victims in a third state — namely, California — creating layer upon layer that makes it next to impossible to trace them.

What can we do about it? For one thing, we must put pressure on our public officials to give the good guys — the cops and prosecutors — a fighting chance. Right now, they're totally outmanned.

For instance, an average of 225 cases of rip-offs against old people are reported in Alameda County every month. (And those are just the cases that get

reported.) But the D.A.'s office only has four lawyers to handle the load. You do the math.

It's even worse in Contra Costa County, which has only two prosecutors assigned to elder rip-offs. Compare that to Santa Clara and San Diego counties, which have each assigned 12 prosecutors to elder rip-off cases.

Call your county supe (if you live in El Cerrito or Richmond, it's John Gioia; if you live in Berkeley, Albany or Oakland, it's Keith Carson) and tell him that when the budget for the next fiscal year comes up this spring, you expect him to push for a hefty increase for the D.A.'s office to prosecute elder abuse.

On a personal level, get more involved with the old people in your life. Take a closer look at your parents or grandparents, or the elderly couple who live down the block. They could be victimized at this very moment, right under your nose.

Even if you're not sure whether you should butt in, butt in anyway. Ask questions. If you think they're too embarrassed to tell you the truth, make friends with their neighbors and ask them to keep an eye on them, too.

Whether the old person is a family member or your neighbor, get involved. Trust me: They can't protect themselves. They're amateurs going up against professionals.

At the first warning sign, call Adult Protective Services' 24-hour Hot Line. In Alameda County, the number is 510-567-6894. If you live in Contra Costa County, the toll-free number is 877-839-4347.

Remember who the victims are. They're nothing less than the Greatest Generation — the GIs and the Rosie the Riveters

who fought the battles and (like Mr. Charles) built the ships, planes and tanks that saved our world from Hitler. We make movies like "Saving Private Ryan" that celebrate what they did for us. Is it too much to ask that they be allowed to live out their final days without fear?

Shame on the scum who prey on them. And shame on us if we don't do something about it.

But I don't want you to get the idea that Mr. Charles' last days were nothing but gloom and doom. Far from it. He had a devoted family who loved him very much. Plus a circle of friends — including Judge Julie Conger and his neighbor, John Taylor — who looked in on him, brought him food, and went out to dinner with him at his favorite restaurant, Kinkaid's at Jack London Square. (But we always had to fight him for the check.)

He also had the satisfaction of knowing how much good he did. I once did some calculating and figured that he waved to more than 14 million cars over those 30 years. That's an awful lot of people he made happy.

I'll tell you one thing: He'll be remembered long after you and I are forgotten, and rightly so.

He reminds me of a character in Kurt Vonnegut's novel, "The Sirens of Titan," named Boaz, who discovers the secret of happiness. "I've found me a place," he says, "where I can do good without doing any harm."

That was Mr. Charles. He did good without doing any harm. How many of us can say as much?

E-mail Martin Snapp at catman@california.com or call him at 510-273-9039.

Everyone knows her as 'Marge'

YOU CAN'T MISS HER. Almost anywhere you go in El Cerrito you are sure to see Marge Collins, and she is a command presence. As we sat at the Mira Vista Country Club, she was greeted by anyone who passed, and she was asking about their day, sympathizing that the day was unavailable because the remodeling being done, just generally schmoozing. You can't miss her at the Costa Civic Theater, either. She is spending much of her time there during that theater renovation, as the vice president of the theater board and the chairwoman of the renovations committee. She told me she is so used and excited about the building being done there that she hardly keeps away from it. Renovations, she said, "will bring a way toward making buildings safer and bringing them up to code and up there."

Construction. Marge is Mrs. Marvin Collins (Marvin has long since sold the contracting firm), and has been working with her husband for years. And as president of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce she is also everywhere else where something is happening. And loving it.

If you occasionally see references in the paper to a Margaret Collins, that is she. But everywhere else she is known as Marge.

She was born in Ogden Utah, but her parents were soon transferred to Pocatello, Idaho, where she grew up. She went through school and college there, planning to pursue a career in music. Her interest in music began early, when her mother told her, "You should sing. You have a beautiful voice." She sang in her high school and in her church choir.

She was one of 14 people from her area who went to New York to try to get into the Juilliard School of Music but, she did not make it. Instead, she became a model, with the help of a friend, named Candy

Jones, who already was one. ("I weighed 98 pounds then," Collins remembers.)

She modeled in many prominent places, and at one of them ran into the advance man for Fred Waring — of Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians. He said he heard she had applied to Juilliard, so she sang for him.

She was hired as a contralto, and she stayed with the band for about a year. She left because she had just gotten married, and the band was going on tour to Cuba. She didn't want to go.

"It cut that career short," she says. "But I had a lot of fun while it lasted."

She stayed at home, had a baby boy, and then got into So-



CLARA-RAE GENSER
Community Folk

cial Services. She worked in a special department that oversaw a new program where citizens could sponsor an immigrant if he or she could prove that there was a home for that person and a job available.

"The work opened my eyes to the plight of underprivileged and needy people, people on welfare," she notes. "That was a turning point in my life. I decided I was going to save the world, or at least some of the people in it. I saw so many

See FOLK, Page A6

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ALBANY PTA NEWS

Albany High School

Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Molly Mitchell at mmm1123@aol.com

April 8, Site Council Meeting, 6 p.m., Prin. Conf. Rm.
April 8, Band Boosters Meeting, 7 p.m., Band Room April 8, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Library
April 11, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Asst. Prin. Conf. Rm.
April 20, Junior/Senior Prom, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., San Francisco City Hall.
CHAPERONES NEEDED, e-mail Junior Class at dimphys_stuff@hotmail.com
SCRIP Orders: Call Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745 or e-mail Edna at ednam-ing@aol.com

Albany Middle School

Interested parents may receive the daily

bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Linda Okamoto at ltopm@earthlink.net

SCRIP Orders: Call Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745 or e-mail Edna at ednam-ing@aol.com

Reminder: Save and turn in General Mills boxtops for education to office.

Cornell Elementary School

Interested parents may receive important announcements by e-mail. Contact Barbara Grady-Ayer at gradayer@aol.com
SCRIP Orders: Call Mark Priven 510-528-2082 or e-mail Mark at privest@pacbell.net

Marin Elementary School

Interested parents may receive important announcements by e-mail. Contact Tree Stuber at marinertree@aol.com
SCRIP Orders: Call Helene Class at 510-526-4902 or e-mail Helene at h.class@att.net Paper Scrip for sale in

the office M, W & F at 8:30 a.m. and M & F at 9:30 a.m.

Reminder: Save and turn in General Mills boxtops for education to office.

Ocean View Elementary School

Interested parents may receive important announcements by e-mail. Contact Dolores Dalton at ddorenz@jps.net

March 28, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., Ocean View Library

April 13, Walkathon, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., fun, great food, entertainment, face-painting, stills lady.

SCRIP Orders: Call Kim Denton at 510-524-3355

Recycle used computer printer cartridges from your home or office. Look for bins in the library.

AUSD Board of Education

March 28, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.,

Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

AUSD Calendar

April 1-5, Spring Break NO SCHOOL
THANKS TO Albany SchoolCARE (an independent fundraising organization) for their ongoing efforts to sell SCRIP benefiting Albany PTAs.

Attention: Online Shoppers. Support Albany Schools by going to www.schoolpop.com to access 125 merchants including Andronico's, Amazon.com, drugstore.com and Lands End. Up to 20 percent of every purchase goes back to your school.

Also, don't forget to support your local merchants who support Albany schools!

Items? Call Kay Weinstein at 510-525-0363 or e-mail: kayweinstein@yahoo.com

Chamber

FROM PAGE A2

and food for the cleanup and lunch.

Those wishing to contribute are asked to send their donation by early April to Earth Day Celebration, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA or 94530, or drop it off at the Community Center, 7007 Moers Lane.

Two more reinvest

City Councilwoman Kathleen Perka and Dr. Mark Perez, DDS, are the latest members to demonstrate their loyalty by extending their membership in the Chamber for another year.

Art show scheduled

The El Cerrito Art Associa-

tion, an associate Chamber member, holds its 28th annual art show at the Community Center, 7007 Moers Lane, on April 28.

Chairing the event, Stong and Winona Ellis of the association's new members.

Artists will compete in separate categories for first prize winner receiving \$50. Ribbons are given for second and third prizes and honorable mentions. Six special awards, one sponsored by the city, will be presented at the reception and award luncheon from 7-9 p.m. on April 28.

Folk

FROM PAGE A5

things that flabbergasted me, I just couldn't let it go by."

They put her in various departments. In the Founding Department she got into trouble because when they brought a little girl in at five o'clock, she took her home.

She was variously in geriatrics, immigrations, and other departments. She also did fund-raising for the Democrats, hosting Franklin D. Roosevelt as a guest when she was coordinating an affair.

After her first husband died, she went to stay with her parents, who had moved to Tacoma, Wash. Again, her mother pushed her to sing in the choir. ("She was always pushing, saying, 'Don't stop.'")

Her second husband already had three children, and although the oldest one did not want to be adopted, she did adopt the other two. One since has died, but she is close to the daughter now in Florida.

When her husband was transferred to Los Angeles she wound up all her work for the family move. Sadly, she was widowed again soon after.

She decided to move to Berkeley, so the children could attend the schools, which at that time, were highly recommended, and so that her son could attend Cal. She got deeply into school affairs, including PTAs. (Her son, at one time, announced that "My mother is into four PTAs!")

It was her passionate desire that the children have music in the schools that led to her getting into politics. When she married Marvin Collins in 1968, they moved to El Cerrito, and two of her children finished their high school years in El Cerrito High. "I am on the scholarship committee there," she notes.

Her interest in politics led to a job in Piedmont, where she was assistant city administrator for eight years. She loved Piedmont and the people there. But living in El Cerrito and now working for her husband, she found her inter-

est in active politics roused. She asked her husband, "What if I ran for an office, would you approve?"

"What are you going to do?"

"I am going to promote business." The "old boys" who really ran El Cerrito said business was not "mainstream" for the city, and she knew that was wrong. An altercation with one of the city fathers was the deciding factor, and she ran for the City Council. At the election party he showed up with bottles of champagne.

Marge Collins served on the El Cerrito City Council for eight years, including one term as mayor. She had determined to stop the "politicians sitting in the back room plotting the fate of the city."

Her success is reflected in the work she did, as president of the Mayors Conference, and on other

committees for that organization.

When her time limit was up she went back to the Chamber of Commerce, where she formed a women's group, the "Women Ambassadors."

Having adopted Marvin's two children, and the youngest child of her former husband, with her own three she has a large family. But it did not curtail her activities. Now, as president of the Chamber, she is and has been deeply into the planning for the Plaza, which pleases her as she watches it come to life. "I just want to help," she says, "I want no accolades, I don't have to be the leader, I just want to be on the train."

I greatly enjoyed my luncheon/interview with Marge Collins. Again, I ask for your input. I do have a nice, long list but I always need

more. Please give me your suggestions for interesting people. Write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 525-4585. My email is creggense@aol.com.

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School fund-raising group hits the streets

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — A group of parents and an army of volunteers are working to raise money for school districts to help make up for the programs the school district will be cutting in light of its budget deficit.

The nonprofit organization SchoolCARE (Citizens of Albany Rescue Education) was founded last year by a group of parents and teachers led by Amy Menzimer, as a response to last year's budget crunch. This year the group has grown much larger, with the district slicing \$1.5 million from its \$22 million budget. SchoolCARE raised \$180,000 last year, enough to fund per-

forming arts classes in the kindergarten through third grade; fourth and fifth grade science; elementary and middle school counseling; middle school noontime supervision and after school sports; and advanced high school French and Spanish classes, according to the organization.

This spring, the group is not really looking at dollar amounts, said SchoolCARE spokesman Bob Menzimer, but is instead aiming to double the number of people living and working in the community willing to donate money and increase the number of corporate donations. The aim is to fill gaps in the school district budget.

"For us the central issue is

that (the cuts) really begin to cut away those elements of public education in Albany that have traditionally made education in this community strong and have drawn people to live here," said Menzimer.

SchoolCARE hopes to reach its goal by the start of summer, when the district unveils the classes and teachers offered for the 2002-03 school year. Any money raised will be given to the school district, which will work with the individual schools to figure out where the money will go.

The SchoolCARE spring fund-raising campaign will begin this weekend, when about 65 volunteers will roam Albany streets,

handing out brochures to every resident in the city, with information about the budget cuts and how donations can save school programs.

Menzimer said SchoolCARE's efforts are needed throughout the year and it will be working indefinitely to raise money for Albany schools. He laid the blame for lack of funding on the state and said it is up to the community to find ways to make up the deficit.

"If we want quality education, we're just going to have to pony up the dough for it," he said.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com.

Editorial

FROM PAGE A4

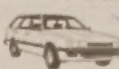
Area. That is hardly compelling evidence that the Bay Area is largely responsible for poor air quality in the entire Central Valley. The test was a single reading on a single day in a small area.

It would be overkill to force the Bay Area to adopt Smog Check II, as Central Valley officials desire. Under the stricter smog test, nearly twice as many cars fail to pass, about 15 percent compared to 8 percent that fail the basic test now used in the Bay Area. The average cost of bringing a failed car into compliance is about \$143, a considerable expense and inconvenience for hundreds of thousands of Bay Area motorists.

The Central Valley needs to do a lot of work itself before it looks to the Bay Area for solutions to air pollution. It could start with stricter development plans, particularly ones that match residential growth with job development to reduce commute times. They also could do more on agricultural and open-space preservation.

Perhaps then the Bay Area could consider stricter smog tests as part of a compromise with the Central Valley. This is an idea suggested by Contra Costa County Supervisor Mark DeSaulnier, who also is on regional air and transportation boards. That would be far better than onerous legislation and litigation.

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE

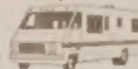
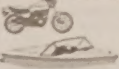


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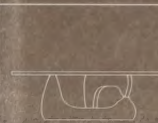
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EL CERRITO PTA NEWS

Bay Area Council

March 15, 7 p.m. in the faculty room at Middle School. Annual election meeting. Guests will include Terri Jackson, President of UTR.

Adams Middle School

Join the PTA for \$7 per member. Send your payment of \$7 per member and include the member's name, address, phone number, student's name, along with the email address. Send in your membership to Adams PTA, 5000 Paterson Circle, Richmond, CA 94805.

Voice Message Box: Weekly updates of what is happening at school. The number to call is (510) 464-1360, ext 70.

Mail Group - Weekly email bulletins sent. Send your email address to ptasay2429@aol.com

Castro Elementary

Members: Castro is enrolled in eScrip (510) 378-7554. Albertson's, Target, and SchoolPop fundraising programs. Call Peggy Wilcox at 238-0761 to find out how you can benefit Castro when you shop.

El Cerrito High

NEW SCRIP SALES: El Cerrito High School PTSA is enrolled in the eScrip program. Our group ID is 5221087

Keep informed: Join the ECHS email forum. To sign up, please email Joann Steck-Bayat at jsbayat@attbi.com.

Portola Middle School

Teen Center - Monday through Thursday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Community Center. Fee - \$6 drop in or \$50 monthly. Great activities, trips and special events. Call 215-4370 for more information.

E-mail forum - school information and meeting notices direct to your email box. Send your email address and request to be on the mail list to Kathy Travlos travlos@dnai.com.

WCCUSD

April 1-5, Spring Break - no school for all students.

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Del Norte

FROM PAGE A1

84,000 square feet of retail, 52,000 square feet of office space and a 28,000-square-foot fitness center. The plan also "improves the efficiency" of the station's intermodal zone and increases its capacity by 25 percent, according to a memo given to the City Council.

BART replacement parking and all required new parking — nearly 1,650 spaces in all — would be located underground on the San Pablo Avenue side of the site, "thereby minimizing the regional traffic impact on local streets to the east of the BART station."

The plan also includes a small park east of Kearny Street and more greenspace west of the BART station. A plaza connects San Pablo Avenue with the BART station and a pedestrian crossing is proposed across San Pablo.

"There's a lot of aspects in the plan that are exciting," said Councilman Mark Friedman, "and a lot of aspects that are troubling."

Only one resident spoke in favor of the entire plan, with others having concerns ranging from parking to the impact of the development on views from nearby homes. Several residents also said the plan didn't reflect what they said they wanted during the workshops.

About four residents said the parking would be inadequate and cars would spill over into the surrounding neighborhood. "There will be a massive parking impact on the neighborhood," said Robert Sessler.

Resident Bill Patt said a signal light on San Pablo Avenue would adversely affect traffic flow.

Sean Kelley said he wants to see housing that is owned instead of rented. "Apartments (that are rented) will fall in disrepair and will become eyesores," he contended.

A BART representative told the council that the plan would evolve and have to go through the state, city and BART approval process before anything could be constructed.

The council was skeptical about the project, though members applauded efforts to involve community input. Ultimately, the council tabled the issue so it could discuss it at another meeting.

"I'm glad to see you are giving the community every oppor-

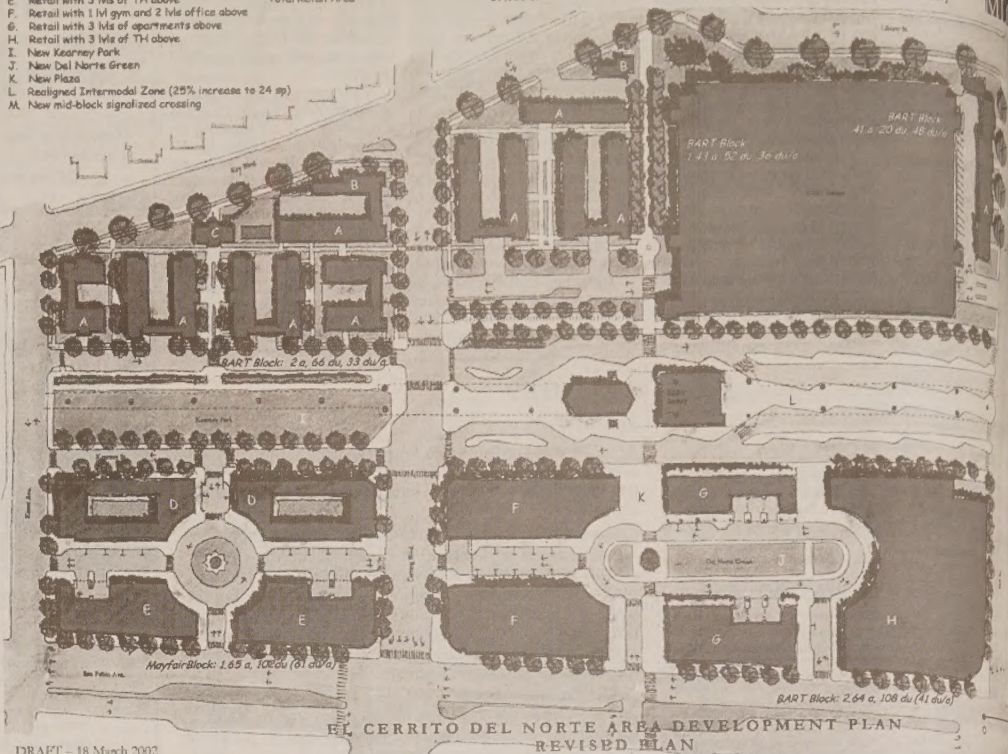
- INDEX**
- A. Townhomes - 3.5 levels
 - B. Townhomes - 2.5 levels
 - C. Leasing/Meeting Center - 1 level
 - D. Walk-Up Apartments - 3 levels
 - E. Retail with 3 lvs of TH above
 - F. Retail with 1 lv gym and 2 lvs office above
 - G. Retail with 3 lvs of apartments above
 - H. Retail with 3 lvs of TH above
 - I. New Kearney Park
 - J. New Del Norte Green
 - K. New Plaza
 - L. Realigned Intermodal Zone (25% increase to 24 sp)
 - M. New mid-block signalized crossing

- GENERAL NOTES**
- Total net residential site area
 - Total residential units:
 - Office Area
 - Fitness Area
 - Total Retail Area

7.85 a
348 (44.3 du/a)
52,000 sf
28,000 sf
89,525 sf

- PARKING NOTES**
- BART (910-101 new)
 - San Pablo TH (1.04/du)
 - Commercial (1/400sf)
 - TOTAL

1020
218 (210 units)
403 (7,100sf restaurant)
1641 (1448 in 2 lv auto garage, 200 in 2 lv self park46 on street)



DRAFT - 18 March 2002

EL CERRITO DEL NORTE AREA DEVELOPMENT PLAN
REVISED PLAN

THIS IS the layout of the proposed development at the Del Norte BART station that the council discussed Monday.

tunity to make this a property that the community can support," said Friedman.

For more information about the Del Norte plan, visit www.ecdelnorte.com.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com

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East Bay Women in Business Roundtable Breakfast

In Partnership with Women in Technology International (WITI)



Osprey Orielle Lake

Designer, sculptor and founder of The International Cheemah Monument, Osprey Orielle Lake will speak about her momentous project and its meaning to women, the diverse cultures of the world, and business. Cheemah, Mother of the Spirit-Fire, is an 18-foot tall bronze monument dedicated to symbolize cultural diversity, world unity and care for the earth. The International Cheemah Monument project will place eight Cheemah monuments around the world to create an inspiring bridge between cultures. Two of the monuments have already been produced and placed - one at the Hamburg International Airport in Germany and the other at a cultural center in Majorca, Spain. A third will be placed and dedicated in May of 2002 in Oakland's Jack London Square.

This breakfast promises to inspire and generate insight as this exceptional artist shares about her career creating challenging and poignant works of art, as well as training young people to become confident artists and business people who will create meaningful additions to their communities and the world around them.

Friday, April 5th, 2002
7:15-7:30 am - Breakfast
7:30-9:00 am - Meeting



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Holy Week Services



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Holy Week Services

Sunday, March 24
10:00 am Worship Service
Monday-Friday, March 25-29
8:00-8:30 am Daily Morning Meditation
Maundy Thursday, March 28
5:45 pm Church Dinner (adults \$15, seniors \$10,
children under 18 \$5, family max. \$35)
7:00 pm Worship Service
Good Friday, March 29
12 noon Worship Service
Easter Sunday, March 31
10:00 am Sunrise Worship Service in the fountain courtyard
10:00 & 10:30 am Easter Festival Services in the Sanctuary

Join Us This Holy Week

Wednesday Contemplative Service (Taizé)
10:00 a.m. Prayer, chants and reflection,
with supper following

Maundy Thursday
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Passover Seder
Prayer and liturgy

Good Friday
10:00 p.m. Tenebrae service of light and shadow

Easter Sunday
10:00 a.m. Celebrate the Resurrection
Childcare provided.
Easter egg hunt following

**First Presbyterian
Church of Oakland**
17th & Broadway, 444-3555

CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH

322 St. James Drive
Piedmont, CA 94611
510-530-4343

CELEBRATION OF THE TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY, March 28, 2002
7:30 p.m. - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

GOOD FRIDAY, March 29, 2002
12:30 p.m. - GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY
7:30 p.m. - TENEBRAE

HOLY SATURDAY, March 30, 2002
8:00 p.m. - EASTER VIGIL MASS

EASTER SUNDAY, March 31, 2002
8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.
EASTER MASSES

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is not
celebrated during Holy Week or on Holy Saturday.



Christian Science Church Services

1521 Spruce St., Berkeley
Sunday Services
Sunday School for young people
10 AM
848-2047
Sunday, March 24
Subject: Matter

Wednesday Testimony Meetings:
8:00 PM - All are welcome
Reading Room:
1486 Solano Ave.
Albany 526-4252



College Avenue

Presbyterian Church
5951 College Avenue, Oakland
Ch. Ofc. 658-3665, Pastor's Ofc. 547-3053

A Church where God's love and purpose is
promoted, regardless of race, politics, age,
or church background

Holy Week Offerings

Sun. 3/24 - 10:30 a.m. *Palm Sunday*
Thur. 3/28 - 7:30 p.m. *Maundy Thur.*
Fri. 3/29 - 7:30 p.m. *Good Friday*
Sun. 3/31 - 10:10 a.m. Meet at Rockridge
BART Station for Bagpipe Band Led
Easter Processional
10:30 a.m. Worship featuring Choir,
Organ, Brass, Bagpipe Band Medley, Entry
of "Empty Cross." A Message to Encourage
You to trust and follow Christ

Rev. Bill Beatty, Pastor



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

114 Montecito Ave. at Grand Ave. (near Harrison),
Oakland (510) 843-4314

The Rev. John H. Eastwood

EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 am The Exsultet, Renewal of Baptismal Vows, First Eucharist of
Easter, Music with the Gregorian Schola
9:00 am Family Service
10:00 am Festival Choral Eucharist with Holy Baptism, Childcare
11:30 am Easter Brunch with Children's Easter Egg Hunt

First Covenant Church

4000 Redwood Road, Oakland, CA 94619
(510) 531-5244

Good Friday Communion Service
March 29 7:30 PM

Music and meditation, remembering the crucifixion of Jesus Christ

Easter Sunday Worship Morning

March 31 9:00 AM and 10:45 AM

Joyous services of celebration,
full of the bright music and great Hope of Easter!

Complimentary Easter Sunday Brunch

10:00-10:45 AM in the gym

Free parking, doors open 1/2 hour before the services, child care available.

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THE ACCUSED

Please join us for four exciting
performances of this riveting and
moving musical drama that portrays
the powerful revelation of God's
greatest gift to man.
Your life will be forever changed!!!

Kaleo Christian Fellowship
7700 Mountain Blvd.
Oakland, CA 94605
Russell A. Duley, Pastor

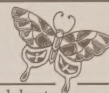
Produced & Directed by
Charles D. Lothien III
2 & 2
Original Music
Written and Arranged by
Leonard S. Lothien

Thursday, Friday & Saturday
March 28th-30th 7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday Morning
March 31st 10:00 a.m.
NO CHARGE - FREE ADMISSION

For further information, please call (925) 829-5115

Hallelujah!

Christ is risen!



Join us as we prepare for and celebrate
the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Palm Sunday, March 24

8:00 am Eucharist
9:00 am Eumenical Blessing of the Palms in Montclair Park
followed by Procession of the Palms to St. John's Episcopal Church

Wednesday, March 27

7:30 pm Tenebrae - Service of Darkness

Maundy Thursday, March 28

6:30 pm Supper
7:30 pm Eucharist, Footwashing and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, March 29

7:30 pm Procession of the Cross, Prayer Vigil

Easter Vigil, March 30

7:30 pm The Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday, March 31

8:00 pm Eucharist
9:00 pm Nursery Opens
9:45 am Children's Celebration
10:00 am Choral Eucharist

Childcare for infants and toddlers available at all services
St. John's Episcopal Church, Oakland
1707 Gouldin Road (off Thornhill, in Montclair) 510 339-2200

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH



MARCH 28th MAUNDY THURSDAY - 7:00 P.M.
Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar

MARCH 29th GOOD FRIDAY - 7:00 P.M.
Musical reflection on the Passion with
choir, strings, oboe and organ

MARCH 31st EASTER - 10:00 A.M.
Festival Eucharist with Choir, Brass & Bells

1658 Excelsior Avenue
Oakland, CA 94602
(510) 530-6333

visit us at: www.stpaul-lutheran.com
Wheelchair accessible - Nursery provided at all services

REJOICE! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Celebrate the Promise of Eternal Life!

Easter Sunday
March 31, 10:30 a.m.

Noah's Bagels and Peet's Coffee
after the service

Childcare provided

PARK BOULEVARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4101 Park Boulevard (at Hampel), Oakland, CA 94602
510-530-5311 • www.pbpc.org

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To place a classified ad call 339-8777

El Cerrito police seeking information in pair of robberies

EL CERRITO police are asking for the public's help in the identification of a man who robbed the Payless Shoe Source store at Carlson Boulevard and San Pablo Avenue on March 6. The man browsed in the store, selected merchandise and then approached the register. He simulated a weapon at the employees and demanded cash from the clerk. After taking the money and merchandise, he fled in an unknown direction. The suspect is described as an African-American male, 25-30 years old, 5-foot-8, weighing approximately 170 pounds. The man appeared to have stitches in his left ear. Anyone with information on the suspect in the attached photograph please contact Detective Scott Clatt of the El Cerrito Police Department at 510-215-4420 or in person at 10900 San Pablo Ave. in El Cerrito. The case number for this incident is 02-1439.



EL CERRITO POLICE are requesting the assistance of the public in the identification of a robbery suspect who was seen taking items from the Target store on Tuesday. The suspect walked around the store with a large black trash bag. When unarmed store security officers attempted to stop the suspect after he left the store with out paying for the items, he simulated a weapon and threatened to shoot them. The suspect then fled the area with the merchandise. The suspect is described as a light-complexioned African-American male with graying hair in a ponytail, about 5-foot-6 and weighing 145 pounds. Anyone with information about the identity of this suspect is asked to contact Detective Clatt of the El Cerrito Police Department at 510-215-4420 or in person at 10900 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. The case file number for this incident is 02-1701.



New law gives horse track workers the choice to unionize

By Clare Curley
STAFF WRITER

Despite a new law allowing backstretch workers to organize, the Service Employees International Union, which started courting stable workers at Golden Gate Fields two years ago, has yet to make the first move.

The law became effective in January and gives some 3,500 backstretch workers statewide the opportunity to form unions. The workers consist of hot walkers who tend to the horses after they run, grooms and exercise riders. At the track in Albany, many are Latinos with limited English skills, many of whom chose to live in on-site housing.

"Right now, the state is in the process of figuring out its access rules — it's taking longer than people expected," said Tom Csekey, vice president of the Local 1877 union of Northern California.

Csekey said it's been a year and a half since he has spoken to any of the employees who tend to the horses at Golden Gate Fields. By law the workers are allowed to organize, but the SEIU has to obtain a license before entering the property. "In the not-too-distant future (the rules) will be concluded," he added.

Two years after the Los Angeles Times released reports claiming unsanitary living conditions and pay abuses at state racetracks, the new law also requires that racetrack housing meet state and local standards, as well as establishing regular labor commissioner audits of non-union employers of backstretch workers.

A cluster of green, slanted roofs sit along the waterfront at the border of Albany and Berkeley, just north of Gilman Street — the living quarters of a small, enclosed community of people who live, work and breathe horses.

"It's weird, as much as people travel on (Interstate 80) and get stuck in traffic in front of us, people don't look at this place," said Terry Houghton, a trainer at Golden Gate Fields.

The Service Employees International Union started making noise about a bid to organize workers two years ago. Since pro-union members held a bilingual rally of support at the waterfront over a year ago, however, some employees have begun to question their stance on organizing.

According to Aurelius Thomas, a foreman at Golden Gate Fields, the decision whether or not to do so has resulted in a long-standing tug-of-war among the site's several hundred backstretch workers.

The fear is that if the workers unionize, trainers would have to hire more workers and pay out more in Workers Compensation, said Thomas, which could end

up lowering the wages of backstretch workers.

In the past 25 years, Thomas has gone from groom to off-track jobs, then left to attend college. But he eventually returned to Golden Gate Fields to work as a groom, and in 1995 became a foreman, supervising barn activity.

"The work is great — everyone knows just about everyone," said Thomas. The workers are given medical and dental benefits and a pension plan. Spanish-speaking workers are offered English classes, as well as on-site drug and alcohol counseling.

But the work schedule makes it difficult for some workers to take a day off, he said, even for doctor appointments. "It's a seven-day-a-week job," he said. The hours vary from barn to barn. "You're talking 5 or 6 a.m. to noon."

Some workers are asked to return in the afternoon to feed and wash the horses. On race days, backstretch workers end up working extra-long days.

"It's a burden if you have a family," he said. "They should have a swing man come in and take over for a person who needs the day off."

Houghton conceded the situation varies from barn to barn. But, she said, the track also provides flexibility, like allowing workers to go to Mexico for several months and return to the same job.

Technically, each stable functions like an independent contractor; a barn with 20 horses might hire five grooms, two hot walkers and one exercise rider. The pay differs — up to \$1,800 a month for grooms — and workers have the option of living in small rooms in the stable area for free.

According to Houghton, each group of workers could vote independently of one another, although Csekey said the new law allows for "larger-scale organizing and larger-scale collective bargaining."

Some trainers are already planning to leave the state because of California's recently increased Workers Comp fees, said Houghton.

"Most of the trainers would downsize" if their workers voted to unionize, she said. "If my barn votes to go union, I could negotiate to pay minimum wage."

Csekey is skeptical, and said that efforts to educate backstretch workers at Golden Gate Fields is actually a campaign on the part of trainers to derail unionization.

Still, there is some fear the new system wouldn't take into account varying levels of expertise among backstretch workers.

"What (the union) fails to realize is this is a profession," said Thomas, who isn't sure where he stands on the union issue.

Trail

FROM PAGE A1

added. "We're not making any decision on what the trail will look like. It's just hiring the consultant and I think the important thing for the community to know is there will be public process in getting them involved in deciding this."

The consultant, Alta Transportation Consulting, will have workshops between June and

August with residents and city officials from the three cities to decide what the trail will look like and Alta will try to come up with a consensus by November. Once there is a decision on what the trail will look like, grants for construction will be sought.

"Depending on how successful the consensus building part of it and all of that goes, we could be talking another year before construction or potentially longer," Paine said.

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Queen Set \$1999

King Set \$2299

Chattam & Wells

Paloma

Extra Firm

12 1/4" 600 DOUBLE OFFSET COILS

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For your little princess! Twin heart bed & accessories!

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Frame Only

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209-951-5880

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SAN FRANCISCO

1400 Van Ness Ave.

415-547-1541

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28 Fulton Dr.

415-299-0000

Real Estate & Home

Living supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

Friday, March 22, 2002

Section B

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B6]

Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B13]



SUNNY 1912 CRAFTSMAN-STYLE HOME at 215 Ramona Ave. in Piedmont offers lots of living space.

Piedmont home steeped in artistic tradition

BY GAIL LOMBARDI
CORRESPONDENT

Paint it white — and later painter Elmer Bischoff paint it white — all white, the artist knew color. Bischoff felt that white would be his wife's house at 215 Ramona Ave. in Piedmont with its white outlines and materials. That 90 years ago, and the present have kept that tradition.

Built in Craftsman style

Builders in Piedmont were busy in the years following the 1906 earthquake, as many San Franciscans, who lost their homes in the earthquake and subsequent fire, fled to the East Bay to build new homes. As part of this building boom, Emma and Walter

Offered at \$859,000, the home at 215 Ramona Ave. in Piedmont will be open both this Sunday and next from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

See TRADITION, Page B2

Ready, set, go



BY BARBARA HENDRICKSON
RED OAK REALTY

Holly and Robin Schick realized that their beloved three-bedroom Rockridge bungalow conveniently located just south of the Berkeley border, was getting too small their growing family, two kids and maybe another in the near future. So, they decided to look around for a larger home. They started out looking at houses in the same area hoping to find something that would suit

their needs. After several frustrating months, they revamped their game plan and decided to move to Colorado to the town where Robin had grown up, near where his parents live.

Their focus changed suddenly from where they would move to and when they would move, to just how fast could sell their Rockridge home they get on to their new life in Colorado. The challenge became how a family who had been accumulating

things for years get their house on the market in less than 3 weeks! The house was filled with, it turned out, over 100 boxes of baby gifts, papers, clothing, dishes, wedding gifts, framed photographs, toys, Ikea and Pottery Barn furniture and more miscellaneous stuff than anyone could have predicted.

Holly has a masters degree in fashion design and Robin is a

See BUNGALOW, Page B2

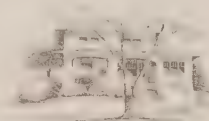
PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



303 PACIFIC AVENUE \$2,950,000
Regency Revival mansion — meticulously renovated. 6BR/4.5BA. Gorgeous kitchen, maple paneled family room, large terraces on 2 levels w/sweeping Bay views. Nancy Lehrkind



505 SCENIC AVENUE \$1,069,000
Spectacular views & privacy from this contemporary on a 1/2 acre terraced lot! Decks galore. 4BR/3BA. Must see! Angela Wei Grubb



22 WILDWOOD AVENUE \$689,000
This lovely Prairie-style home has it all — 4BR/2.5BA, a spacious living room, formal dining room, cozy den and eat-in kitchen. Mavis Delacroix

OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



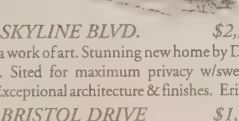
6013 SKYLINE BLVD. \$2,300,000
Live in a work of art. Stunning new home by David Stark Wilson. Sited for maximum privacy w/sweeping Bay views. Exceptional architecture & finishes. Erika Celestre



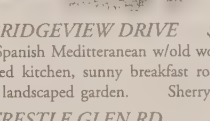
4350 BRIDGEVIEW DRIVE \$749,000
Elegant Spanish Mediterranean w/old world charm. Remodeled kitchen, sunny breakfast room, family room & landscaped garden. Sherry Benninger



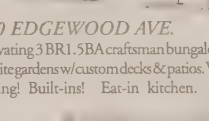
4630 EDGEWOOD AVE. \$499,500
Captivating 3BR/1.5BA craftsman bungalow surrounded by exquisite gardens w/custom decks & patios. Vintage gumwood detailing! Built-ins! Eat-in kitchen. Lori Lombardo



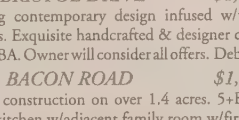
6919 BRISTOL DRIVE \$1,080,000
Striking contemporary design infused w/traditional features. Exquisite handcrafted & designer details. 4 or 5BR/4BA. Owner will consider all offers. Debra Dryden



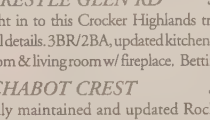
1706 TRESTLE GLEN RD \$689,000
Move right in to this Crocker Highlands traditional w/wonderful details. 3BR/2BA, updated kitchen, large formal dining room & living room w/fireplace. Bettina Balestrieri



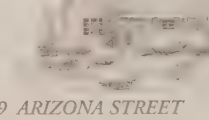
3149 ARIZONA STREET \$399,000
This charming Laurel District traditional features 2BR/1.5BA, refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchen, living room w/fireplace, & garden w/fruit trees. Anne Feste



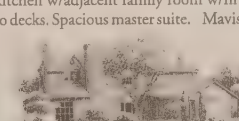
5556 BACON ROAD \$1,049,000
Newer construction on over 1.4 acres. 5+BR/3.5BA. Large kitchen w/adjacent family room w/fireplace and access to decks. Spacious master suite. Mavis Delacroix



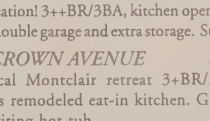
5940 CHABOT CREST \$660,000
Beautifully maintained and updated Rockridge gem! Great location! 3+BR/3BA, kitchen opens to deck & garden, double garage and extra storage. Susie Schevill



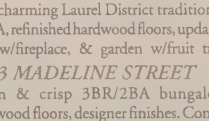
3263 MADELINE STREET \$389,000
Clean & crisp 3BR/2BA bungalow. Refinished hardwood floors, designer finishes. Conveniently located near public transportation & shopping. Adam Betta



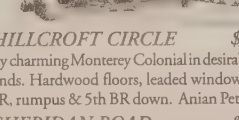
907 HILLCROFT CIRCLE \$895,000
Perfectly charming Monterey Colonial in desirable Crocker Highlands. Hardwood floors, leaded windows, & built-ins. 4BR, rumpus & 5th BR down. Anian Pettit Tunney



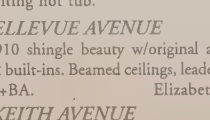
6272 CROWN AVENUE \$639,000
A magical Montclair retreat 3+BR/3 full BA. Fabulous remodeled eat-in kitchen. Great garden with inviting hot tub. Karen Starr



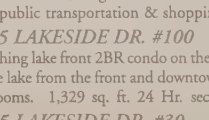
1555 LAKESIDE DR. #100 \$375,000
Smashing lake front 2BR condo on the 10th floor. View of the lake from the front and downtown view from the bedrooms. 1,329 sq. ft. 24 Hr. security. Ed Kuo



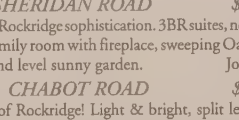
230 SHERIDAN ROAD \$829,000
Upper Rockridge sophistication. 3BR suites, new kitchen, cozy family room with fireplace, sweeping Oakland hills view and level sunny garden. John Karnay



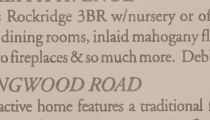
428 BELLEVUE AVENUE \$625,000
Cler 1910 shingle beauty w/original architectural details & built-ins. Beamed ceilings, leaded windows, 4+BR/2+BA. Elizabeth Dickson



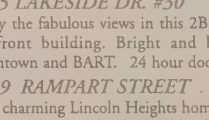
1555 LAKESIDE DR. #30 \$365,000
Enjoy the fabulous view in this 2BR/2BA unit in a lakefront building. Bright and beautiful. Near downtown and BART. 24 hour doorman. Ed Kuo



6226 CHABOT ROAD \$775,000
Heart of Rockridge! Light & bright, split level. 3+BR/2BA, breakfast room, elegant formal dining room, built-ins and beautiful details. Close to BART. Donna DeBardi



5965 KEITH AVENUE \$599,000
Fabulous Rockridge 3BR w/nursery or office. Formal living & dining rooms, inlaid mahogany floors, French doors, two fireplaces & so much more. Debbi DiMaggio



10 KINGWOOD ROAD \$539,000
This attractive home features a traditional floor plan w/3BR plus a study upstairs, master suite, family room off kitchen, large living room & 2-car garage. Steve Michaelides

BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.

2944 AVALON AVENUE \$1,900,000
Grand Claremont Court classic! 5+BR/4.5BA, large family room, den, sun room, updated kitchen, au-pair quarters. Close to shops and BART. Bebe McRae

450 ARLINGTON AVENUE \$599,000
Dramatic Surprise! Fabulous great room, open floor plan, view from all levels. 3BR/2BA. Great location, close to coffee, shopping & transportation. Ruth Frassetto

2539-2541 HILGARD AVE \$900,000
Fabulous Northside traditional duplex, close to campus, gourmet ghetto & more. Both units 2BR/2BA. Views, style & privacy! Tricia Swift

2200 MARIN AVENUE \$579,500
Graciously proportioned rooms! High ceilings! Remodeled eat-in kitchen. French doors from DR to garden. Some Bay & bridge views. 3 BR/2.5BA. Chris Cohn

542 MADISON STREET \$390,000
This very attractive 3BR/2BA home is well-located on a quiet Albany cul-de-sac. East Bay hills view! Close to Solano Ave., shopping, BART, SF Bus, 80/580. Nacio Brown

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THE FINE ART OF "DE-CLUTTERING."

Homeowners Robin and Holly Schick took on the huge task of de-cluttering their house. The results are obvious in these before and after photos.



Bunalow

FROM PAGE B1

graphic artist. It was evident by the choices they'd made in the things they'd bought that they both had "good eyes" for color and design.

Because they both worked long days and had little time with their kids, their home was quite cluttered, reflecting the fact that their time was spent nurturing their kids not cleaning the chaos.

Money was tight. They had to shell out a lot of money for their new Colorado home and would very

soon be carrying two mortgages. We talked about staging the house using one of the many professionals who are available to take the help stress out of moving but that was not an option.

We laid out a plan. I introduced them to my three secret wizard workers — Brett, Joe and Jimmy — to do general repairs and some painting, and to spruce up the garage to make it into an art studio/home office. Robin and Holly then took on the huge task of de-cluttering the house: the most important and most difficult part of the plan.

After all, every paper begs to be read before being thrown out and every dress wants to be tried on one more time. They held firm and tossed out everything they hadn't worn or used in the last 2 years, a general rule I am told that we all should heed. They opened boxes from their last move to see if they wanted to take the stuff still stored inside to Colorado.

They also packed up what they knew they did want to take with them and labeled it for shipping.

After five trips to the dump, several pick-ups by Goodwill and an office moved from the baby's room

into the garage, they were ready to go on the market.

"It is all about what we've collected," Robin says, "really most of the time we have really liked what we bought, until it became clutter."

"We just had too many things," says Holly, "nice things, but when we wanted to show off our home we could hardly find its bones."

All of us who travel the circuit of open houses know that the key to "staging," presenting small homes is showing freshly painted, brightly lit and scrubbed spaces, with a few nice pieces of furniture to give a sense of proportion and color so

that the buyer's eye can imagine moving into a simple, clutter free life. Isn't that what we all think that we want, at least on a sunny Sunday afternoon?

This Sunday afternoon March 24th from 1 to 5 p.m., when people come through Robin and Holly's house at 443 65th St. — just east of Telegraph—in Rockridge, they'll find a real urban oasis: a lovely three-bedroom, one-bath home with original detailing, including a bath that's been remodeled in the style of the house with a claw foot tub.

In addition, a lush fully fenced yard with a hot tub and a large deck

Offered at \$350,000. Home w/ 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2 car garage. To learn more, call Barbara Hendrickson at 510-280-2140.

for entertaining. If the home has a garden, the home is located in a great neighborhood. To learn more, call Barbara Hendrickson at 510-280-2140.

Tradition

FROM PAGE B1

Gabriel built 215 Ramona Ave. in 1912 and lived here for 4 years.

Built in the popular Craftsman style, the upper story is shingled; the first floor has the heavy stucco of the 1910s. Other Craftsman details include the exposed beams under the wide eaves; two large brackets under the overhanging upper story in front; the gabled dormer and the distinctive low arches over the front porch.

Sunny exposure

The home 215 Ramona Ave. takes full advantage of its southern exposure, and light fills many of its rooms. From the sunny front porch, walk into the central entry hall with its graceful staircase and Craftsman-style banisters.

The large living room is on the left with its west facing bay window, built-in bookcases, marble fireplace and traditional mantle. The dining room on the right is wonderful for

entertaining with French doors opening to a sunny brick patio and garden beyond. A second door opens onto the front porch.

A short passageway to the kitchen has glass-paned china cabinets. The kitchen has been updated, and there's a laundry, full bath and "plus" room beyond. The original bead board still exists in the service area.

Lots of closet and storage space

Upstairs, large windows again fill the rooms with light. The front bedroom has a wall of built-in bookcases, a large closet with more built-ins and a unique hidden sink with drop-in lid (installed when the room was used as a dark room). The second bedroom is also large with a generous closet with more built-in cabinets and shelving. Both bedrooms share a full bath.

The master suite sits quietly at the rear of the house, overlooking trees and gardens. Again, roomy closets and built-in cabinets offer

lots of storage space. A short hall lined with more closets leads to the master bath and private upstairs den. Originally, a balcony, then a sun porch, the light-filled den has generous windows on two sides and offers bay views.

Previous families living at 215 Ramona Ave. have left their legacy. The Horace R. Gaithers lived here in the 1920s and 1930s and installed the sunny brick patio. Jean Bischoff, former wife of painter Elmer Bischoff, raised her family here in the 1950s and 1960s. She painted the house white, and it's been white ever since.

The home will be open both this Sunday and next, March 24 and 31, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. For further information, contact Claire Cunningham at Prudential California Realty in Piedmont at 510-287-9065.

Gail Lombardi is an architectural historian and secretary to the Piedmont Historical Society. If you are interested in a house history, please contact her at 510-547-3311.

Questions and answers: that leaking

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Q. Volker asks: How do I change a leaking toilet tank?

A. The first step in repairing a leaking toilet tank is to determine where the leak is located and what is causing it.

There are several possible causes, the most obvious of which is a hairline crack in the tank — often virtually undetectable.

Check the penetrations

Other possible causes are: the four factory penetrations at the bottom of the tank where connections are made to the water supply, where the tank is bolted to the bowl, and at the location where water flows from the tank to the bowl.

Each of these locations has a rubber washer designed to ensure a watertight connection. Over time, the connections might

become loose or the washers might deteriorate, requiring replacement.

Finding the leak

An easy means of determining the location of the leak is by placing a few drops of food coloring into the toilet tank. Wait about an hour and return to the scene to search for colored water at the outside of the tank. If the leak is at one of the factory penetrations, use a wrench or a screwdriver to tighten the connection.

Dry the area and return in another hour to see if the problem has been solved. If it hasn't been, try replacing the washers.

Drain the tank by turning off the water supply and flushing the toilet. Disconnect the water supply and remove the two bolts that anchor the tank to the bowl.

Clean the connections and openings with a soft dry cloth and install new washers. Also install a new washer where the tank discharges into the bowl.

But is it just water?

Before you tear out your toilet tank, be certain that it's not a sweating tank. This is caused by condensation on the outside of the tank due to the difference in temperature between the toilet tank and the room.

If the problem is condensation, it can be solved in one of two ways — a dehumidifier or a temporary fix.

A look at the liner

The tank liner consists of a rubber membrane that in the interior surface of the tank. As a layer of insulation, the liner prevents water from seeping into the bowl. It requires replacing it with a new liner. This is a major job, and it's often better to replace the entire toilet.

The former is a common problem, and the latter often requires a professional.

To contact the real estate editor, call 510-743-1665 or e-mail devanosky@cctimes.com

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\$174,888 3W Embarcadero 227. Quaint super private unit on second floor with carport parking. One bedroom with double doors. Walk to Jack London waterfront. Next to channel "Z". Donnaluci 510-814-4826

\$180,000 834 Peninsula St. Contractors special 4bd, 1ba, 2 car garage. 1 room laundry. PENDING

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\$259,000 1427 17th St. Very large home. This house needs work. 14' bath, 2 roughed in bedrooms. PENDING

w/ approx 2 car garage. Concrete foundation. Live upstairs, work downstairs. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$325,000 1366 34th St. OPEN SAT 2-4. Live-work opportunity in loft-style converted Victorian. New foundation. Downstairs legal height. Wonderful raised bed garden. Can be used residential or commercial. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$329,000 1182 14th St. Property is in residential zoning, can be used as commercial. PENDING

owner-occupied. Work OK. 3+ bedrooms, off-street parking. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$750,000 Landl. Approx. 24,400 sq. ft. Approved project to build 18 condos. Kathy 510-814-4706

San Leandro

\$249,950 1400 Carpenter St., #140, 2bd, 2 ba condo close to BART, bus and shopping! PENDING

Fireplace, in, inside laundry, and a lovely floor plan. Great location, new carpeting, and freshly painted. Tere 510-814-4840

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\$369,000 15889 Via Granada. Charming single level 3 bd, 2 ba home with open beam family room with skylights, plantation shutters, and security system. Attached double garage. Tere 510-814-4840

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Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

ATTENTION PUBLIC

Home Buying Help

Don't wait any longer. If you have been thinking about buying your first home, moving up or downsizing attend this seminar. "Home Buying Help: How To Buy Your First Or Next Home" is a free seminar held on Saturday, April 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. The instructor is Residential Loan Specialist **Stan Johnson**. The location is the lower level conference room, of the Sanwa Building in San Leandro at the corner of Hesperian Boulevard and East 14th Street. Some of the topics covered are credit, low down payments and grant money. A drawing will be held for a dinner for two at Horatio's Restaurant. Reservations are required. Call the Seminar Hotline at 510-614-2436.

Home Buyer Basics

Home Buyer Basics is a workshop for first-time homebuyers. Learn how to find a house, protect yourself in the contract and review inspection reports. Credit scoring, loan choices and closing costs are also covered. The class is conducted by **Jim Parkhurst** of Prudential California Realty and **Karen Ward** of RE Loan Mortgage. Albany is the location and the date is Saturday, April 13 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is no cost for the class, but reservations are a must. For reservations call the Workshop Hotline at 510-718-2134.

Museum Lecture on "Our Houses"

The Alameda Museum presents the "Our Houses" lecture series for 2002. Prominent Bay Area authors and historians narrate the slide lectures. The museum is located on Alameda Avenue near Park Street in Alameda. The series is scheduled through June. Thursday, March 28 is the next lecture in the series. **Paul Roberts** is the presenter of "A Passion for Pattiani", an exploration

of the work of Alameda builder Alfred Washington Pattiani, an early designer of Queen-Anne style houses. The projector slide show will demonstrate Pattiani's life and work. Call 510-748-0796 for information.

Building Education Center

If you're handy around the house or want to learn how, the Building Education Center in Berkeley is the place for you. BEC provides ongoing classes, lectures and events for the experienced and those new to remodeling and renovation. There are evening classes on weekdays and daytime classes on the weekends. Topics cover power tools, concrete work, retrofitting, plumbing, interior design, carpentry and solar electricity, to name only a few. You can call the center for class information and cost. Contact **Sydney** at 510-525-7610 or visit the website at bldgeduc.org.

REALTISTS INFO

■ Every third Wednesday of the month the Associated Real Property Brokers host the "Dynamic Networking Breakfast". Sponsors are needed for the months of April through December. To sign up call **Tyrene Cooley** at 510-893-8100.

■ There's still time. The new Realtist Membership Directories will be released in May. The directory is an networking tool and can be used in listing presentations. Display advertising is offered in the directory. For advertising rates and information contact **Georgia Richardson** of Richardson Real Estate at 510-569-3499.

BAR UPDATES

■ The Berkeley Association of Realtors announces a visit from the California Association of Realtors President **Robert Bailey** to Region 6 (Alameda County). A luncheon is planned at the Claremont Resort Hotel in Berkeley from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 27. Call **Don Clark** of the BAR office at 510-848-2439.

■ Tech Faire 2002 is coming. The technology fair is co-sponsored by BAR. Mark your calendars for May 1 to 3. In the planning stages are seminars and a free trade show. Watch this column for more details.

OAR EDUCATION

■ Earn an Accredited Buyer Representative Basic Designation. OAR is offering the ABR Designation course from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday and Friday, April 4 and 5. Among course topics covered are Agency, marketing and risk management. Tuition includes first year REBAC dues and 12 credit hours.

■ Time to renew! Earn all 45 hours continuing education in only one-half day. The seminar is from 8:30 a.m. to noon, Friday, May 17, at the OAR Building, on Webster Street in Oakland. Topics include Ethics, Agency, Fair Housing and Trust Funds, with legal and marketing updates. Tuition includes home study materials.

■ Tuition and attendance information for all OAR educational programs should be addressed to **Mary Williams** of the OAR office at 510-836-3000.

TASK FORCE GOAL

Last year the Oakland Association of Realtors established a fundraising task force to raise monies for the Oral Lee Brown Foundation. The foundation helps Realtor Oral Lee Brown keep her promise to a class of Oakland school children, to put them through college. The task force reached last year's goal of \$18,000. The funds were presented at the annual OAR Inaugural. For the year 2002, the OAR task force set its goal at \$20,002. These funds will help Brown with her renewed commitment to three additional classes. Realtor and task force Chairperson, **Lois Harris** of Prudential California Realty encourages everyone to participate in this worthy endeavor. Contact Harris at 510-834-2010.

'e-BUYER' COURSE

A new elective course is being offered by the Real Estate Buyer's Agency Council of the National Association of Realtors. The course called "e-Buyer" is designed to help take the next step after mastering computer and internet basics. REBAC is the awarding body for the ABR(Accredited Buyer's Representative) and ABRM (Accredited Buyer's Representative Manager) designations. To learn more about this six-hour course and ABRM designations call 800-648-6224 or visit the Web site at www.rebac.net.

RENTAL HOUSING

RHANAC presents "Learn How in 2002", an educational series on a variety of issues affecting rental housing. On March 23 there is a three hour class on mold. This course gives an overview of mold and air quality issues. Learn how to investigate and remediate these problems. Classes are held at the Oakland Association of Realtors, on Webster in Oakland. You must pre-register. Contact RHA at 510-893-9873 or via e-mail at RHANAC@pacbell.net.

MORTGAGE PROFESSIONALS

Attention Mortgage Professionals. Learning more about an industry is as important as being a part of that industry. The California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL) and the California Association of Mortgage Brokers (CAMB) strive to keep mortgage professionals educated and informed. Both have monthly dinner meetings, with guest speakers discussing timely topics. CARL meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month beginning with networking at 6 p.m. Networking also kicks off each CAMB meeting, held on the fourth Thursday of each month. To find out more call these organization's hotlines. The CARL Hotline is 925-746-1847. The CAMB Hotline is 925-275-2663.

Breakfast Club

Join the lively Wednesday Morning Breakfast Meetings, presented by the California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL). Meetings are held every Wednesday at American Title in Walnut Creek on Olympic Boulevard. Start time begins promptly at 8:15 a.m. Breakfast refreshments are served. Need info? Want to recommend a speaker? Call Pat Johnson of TRI Commercial Real Estate Services at 925-296-3300.

WHO'S ON FIRST?

■ **Gus Saar** of Old Republic Title invites you to visit their Montclair office. The offices have been renovated and Gus says everything is brand new. Visit Gus or call him at 510-339-2020.

■ Someone new at your company? Something special your com-

pany is doing? Change Putting on a seminar? I'd love to let you know. Contact info is listed in the sidebar.

WHAT'S UP DOC?

I need your information. Fund-raising announcements, promotions and change (company). I want to know more about you. Please send me your information. Write to: e-mail to info@dotplanet.com or fax me at 510-441-7101. Call 441-7100.



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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any notice or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, status or national origin, or an intention to make any limitation or discrimination "Familial status includes age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant people securing custody of children under 18."

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Montclair Better Homes Realty

Sunday Open House • March 24 2:00 - 4:30 pm
152 Wildwood Avenue, Piedmont

NEW LISTING!!

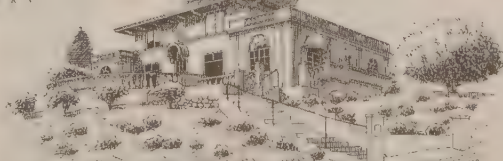
Enjoy quiet, relaxing surroundings when you come home to this light & airy Piedmont beauty. Fireside comfort fills the bright living room from the wood burning fireplace. The kitchen w/ adjoining breakfast room & formal dining room, is designed for convenience & practicality as it opens to the magnificently landscaped backyard w/ deck area for your outdoor furniture. You'll love the versatility of serving either outdoors or in the spacious dining room. Hardwood floors throughout, a remodeled full bath, & a bright and spacious floorplan are just a few characteristics of this home, walking distance to Wildwood School! Asking price is available upon request!



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308 Pacific Avenue, Piedmont

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This turn of the century, formal Regency Revival mansion has been meticulously and elegantly renovated for both grand entertaining and gracious daily living. Formerly the prestigious Wallace School for Girls, the design of today embraces bright and sunny spaces throughout with sweeping Bay views. Six bedrooms, four and one half baths, wood-paneled family room, spectacular modern kitchen and exquisite architectural detailing throughout.

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Open Sunday March 24 2-4:30



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1993 Mediterranean located on a quiet street close to village, lake and transportation. Offers 3++BR 2+BA including dramatic master living room with fireplace, formal dining room, gourmet kitchen w/ island and view to the hills from most windows.

Offered at \$775,000



For more information, call
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510-273-9783

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2666 CARISBROOK

Charming Cape Cod style home with 4+ bedrooms, 2.5 baths, formal dining, kitchen, family, cozy library, 1st floor plan. On a large lot in Piedmont with great indoor-outdoor and pretty canyon garden views.

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Dian Hymer, CRS

Broker Associate
#1 Agent Oakland/Piedmont Office
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Photo tour at Dianhymer.com

Short on funds? Consider a lease option

One way for cash-strapped home buyers to realize their dream

When the biggest obstacle to owning a home is coming up with enough cash for a down payment, one way for cash-strapped home buyers to realize their dream is to lease a home with an option to buy. There's how a lease option works. The buyer (called an optioner) leases the property from the seller (called an optionor) for a period of time. The lease contract gives the optioner the right to buy the property at the end of the lease period, or earlier by mutual agreement, at a price agreed upon in the contract.

The optioner pays a sum, called option money, to the seller at the onset of the lease. This money is applied to the purchase price if the option is exercised. If the option money is forfeited to the seller if the optioner doesn't go through with the purchase.

Like any contract, the terms of a lease option are negotiable: the

Even though the amount of the option money is negotiable, it's usually less than the down payment amount required to purchase an equivalent property.

length of the lease, the amount of the option money, the purchase price and the rent. Sometimes, a seller will agree to credit a portion of the rent toward the purchase, providing an additional incentive for the buyer to go through with the purchase.

Even though the amount of the option money is negotiable, it's usually less than the down payment amount required to purchase an equivalent property. So, for relatively little up-front cash, a lease option allows the buyer to tie up a property at today's prices, and live in it before deciding to buy it. During the lease period, the seller cannot sell the property to another buyer.

HOUSE HUNTING TIP: If you're buying in a market where home prices are rising, a lease option might be a great deal. But, you could end up over-paying for a property if market values decline between the date you agree on a purchase price and the date you exercise your option.

There are two parts to a lease option agreement. The first deals with the terms of the lease. The second deals with the terms of the purchase.

chase. Be sure to include contract contingencies to protect yourself, such as for financing, inspections, and the sale of another house.

Home buyers who have a house to sell in another location might be able to use a lease option to their advantage. Let's say you need the equity out of your current home in order to buy a new home. If the market is slow in the area you're leaving, it might take some time for your home to sell. A lease option gives you a place to live, time to sell your home and a guaranteed right to buy the property at an agreed price.

Don't be surprised if you don't find a lot of listings offered on a lease option basis. In a seller's market, listings usually sell quickly for all cash. But, lease options do become popular in soft markets when sellers are having a difficult time selling.

Regardless of the market, if the sellers need cash from the sale of their home to purchase another home, a lease option probably won't work. But, you may be able to create a lease option opportunity by searching the "homes for rent" ads for a land-



DIAN HYMER
House Hunting

lord who can be convinced to give you an option to buy.

THE CLOSING: Since you forfeit your option money if you don't go through with the purchase, don't option a property that you have no intention of buying. Negotiate a straight lease and save your option money for a home you're serious about buying.

Dian Hymer is author of "Strategic Out, the Complete Home Buyer's Guide," Chronicle Books. She is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office. She can be reached at 510-339-4777.

The GRUBB Co.



2539-2541 Algard, Berkeley
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Fabulous Northside custom duplex, perfect for owner occupants. Views, light and close to U.C. campus and "Gourmet Ghetto."
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Seminars at Truitt and White

Truitt and White's free homeowner seminars are held on Saturdays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Truitt & White Lumber Company 642 Forest Ave. in Berkeley. Refreshments are served and reservations are required. To reserve a place, please call 510-649-2674.

Here's what's on tap for April.

Saturday, April 6

Residential drainage techniques

Due to the overwhelming response to our March Drainage seminar, we have scheduled a second seminar for April. The seminar will be led by Greg Casorso from Casorso Construction. This well-respected, local company specializes in drainage installations and solutions. Greg will review products as well as installation methods at this informative seminar. Be sure to register early!

Saturday, April 20

Marvin replacement window techniques

Our popular replacement window clinic offers homeowners and contractors an opportunity to learn about the advantages of replacement windows, tips and techniques for window installations, and the many options available. Marvin professionals will demonstrate how to choose replacement windows and present an overview of numerous Marvin Window options.

Tip of the week: Mildew elimination

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY

FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

We have long been passing along this formula to eliminate mildew. You can use it on any washable surface. All you do is add 1 quart of liquid laundry bleach and 1 cup of powdered laundry detergent — less if concentrated — to 3 quarts of warm water.

Scrub the solution onto the mildew-affected area, and be sure to keep it wet until the black mildew turns white (when mildew changes color from black to white, it's dead). Although this is a relatively safe concoction, to be certain of safety, use eye protection, wear rubber gloves and make sure there is plenty of ventilation.

The GRUBB Co. REALTORS

NEW LISTING



6226 Chabot Road, Oakland
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Heart of Rockridge! Light & bright, split level. 3+BR/2BA, breakfast room, formal dining room, built-ins, beautiful details and gardens. Close to BART. Offered at \$775,000

DONNA DEBARDI

OFFICE: 510.339.0400/206
Residence: 510.251.2274
GRUBBCO.COM



3918 LOS ARABIS
LAFAYETTE • \$1,475,000



3440 LA CAMINITA
LAFAYETTE • \$1,225,000



268 CAPRICORN AVE.
OAKLAND • \$430,000

These lovely homes were sold during the 1st Quarter of 2002 by Kelly Deal.

Please call Kelly for a free estimate of value of your home.

Kelly Deal
510-484-4300



ALAIN PINEL

New Listing • Ready To Show Sunday 3/24 • Open 1-4 PM

Magnificent Traditional

1133 Estates Drive, Lafayette
Sited on 1+ AC of beautifully landscaped property with fully fenced backyard with lush lawns, pool and pool house. There are 4 lg. bdrms. & 4.5 baths, (one bedroom is now set up as a fabulous Children's playroom w/built-in storage) aprx. 4,373 SF, large gourmet kitchen with built-in eating nook, adjoining expansive fam. rm. with frplc. Elegant liv. rm. and DR with lovely views. Gleaming HW floors thru most of home. So many luxury amenities, must see this beautiful home to fully appreciate.

\$2,895,000



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COLDWELL BANKER
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Carol A. Warren Company
REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

Open Sunday 2:00pm - 4:30pm

First Showing!
314 Wildwood Avenue

Piedmont Spanish Mission Revival
Centrally located, a stone's throw from Wildwood School and Piedmont Park, this gracious family home is pleasantly private and unique. Enter into a beamed foyer, then turn left into a formal living room bathed in sunlight with fireplace and alcove library, or right, enter a stunning dining room with beautifully stenciled beams, wood detail including a built-in china cabinet. The windowed breakfast room welcomes you and directs you to cook's delight kitchen replete with butler's pantry. As you wander through the common areas, four generous bedrooms, bonus room and the three beautifully appointed bathrooms, notice the architectural detail, leaded glass, hand rubbed hardwoods and the luxury of space and quiet. Don't miss the fanciful balcony, large, secluded deck and attention to detail.

Offered at \$1,050,000

Carol Warren, Broker
Phone: (510) 652-4800
Fax: (510) 652-1313
E-Mail: cawar@earthlink.net

HOME, INCOME, AND BOAT DOCK

WELLS BENNETT REALTORS

3233-3235 Fernside Blvd. Alameda

Spanish Mediterranean duplex with enormous architectural charm. Two bedroom, two bath and one bedroom, one bath units with wood trim, formal dining room, breakfast rooms, laundry, garages, plus deep water boat dock.
Offered at: \$750,000

STAN & SHARON HAMMOND
(510) 531-7000 ext. 246

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

25 Barry Ct - \$515,000
141 Basinside Wy - \$610,000
1020 Buena Vista Av - \$570,000
1524 Central Av - \$550,000
1630 Foley St - \$260,000
2990 Johnson Av - \$410,000
2426 Lincoln Av #F - \$255,000
1033 Lincoln Av - \$525,000
1030 Melrose Av - \$385,500
402 Tideway Dr - \$550,000
1221 Union St - \$300,000
2840 Washington St - \$130,000

ALBANY

1066 Curtis St - \$450,000
535 Pierce St #2102 - \$300,000

BERKELEY

2018 9th St #F - \$215,000
1635 9th St - \$114,000
1807 Blake St - \$435,000
1735 California St - \$270,000
1529 Carleton St - \$390,000
841 Creston Rd - \$565,000
3048 Deakin St - \$619,000
1316 Henry St - \$496,500

EL CERRITO

1073 Arlington Bl - \$1,731,000
139 Ashbury Av - \$452,000

16 Carmel Av - \$405,000
837 Lexington Av - \$339,000

EL SOBRANTE

305 Del Valle Cr - \$190,000
1044 Jasmine Ct - \$273,000

EMERYVILLE

4 Captain Dr #405 - \$200,000
8 Commodore #C460 - \$241,000
4 Commodore #D443 - \$236,000

OAKLAND

1901 107th Av - \$246,500
1627 11th St - \$265,000
1703 19th Av - \$430,000
1508 1st Av - \$752,000
3841 35th Av - \$200,000
201 4th St #303 - \$301,000
201 4th St #501 - \$385,000
201 4th St #511 - \$554,000
2501 66th Av - \$240,000
2469 67th Av - \$167,000
330 8th St #5B - \$176,000
1006 90th Av - \$200,000
1218 92nd Av - \$191,000
1329 94th Av - \$200,000
710 Aileen St - \$362,000
6922 Arthur St - \$250,000
2465 Bartlett St - \$290,000
565 Bellevue #1504 - \$301,000
3047 Berlin Wy - \$288,000

4724 Brookdale Av - \$325,000
2317 Bywood Dr - \$662,500
200 Caldecott #114 - \$251,000
720 C. Oaks #C - \$225,000
5736 Chelton Dr - \$670,000
2324 Coolidge Av - \$295,000
6510 Flamingo Wy - \$466,000
4333 Flamingo Av - \$287,500
9874 Golf Links Rd - \$345,000
433 Hale Av - \$225,000
8141 Idlewood St - \$260,000
1721 Indian Wy - \$525,000
2824 Kingsland Av - \$355,000
5915 La Salle Av - \$656,000
427 Lagunitas #307 - \$220,000
6618 Laird Av - \$295,000
6141 Lawton Av - \$680,000
3051 Logan St - \$310,000
4056 Loma Vista Av - \$380,000
4509 Market St - \$210,000
3250 Milk Jr Wy - \$277,000
7610 Mountain Bl #5 - \$172,500
4048 Norton Av - \$361,000
2607 Parker Av - \$127,000
3033 Rawson St - \$330,000
11025 Robledo Dr - \$215,000
424 Rossmoor Av - \$207,500
7128 Saroni Dr - \$530,000
8288 Skyline Cr - \$673,000
1 W. E. Cadero #363 - \$154,500

RICHMOND

510 18th St - \$247,000
433 33rd St - \$250,000

658 33rd St - \$235,000
519 3rd St - \$188,000
259 4th St - \$270,000
813 Banks Dr - \$180,000
6135 Bernhard Av - \$425,000
6317 Kensington Av - \$260,000
1361 Mariposa St - \$238,500
1709 Ohio Av - \$200,000
3704 Painted Pony - \$367,000
3011 Phillips Ct - \$325,000
3400 Roosevelt Av - \$219,500
6121 Sutter Av - \$269,000

SAN LEANDRO

1509 138th Av - \$220,500
1278 144th Av - \$250,000
1663 163rd Av - \$260,000
525 Dowling Bl - \$400,000
281 Farrelly Dr - \$299,000
101 Georgia Wy - \$369,000
62 Georgia Wy - \$345,000
458 Juana Av - \$165,000
360 Leo Av - \$310,000
16269 Liberty St - \$250,000
14432 Locust St - \$361,000
725 Matzoa Ln - \$506,000
14248 Outrigger Dr - \$327,000
335 Pershing Dr - \$292,000
16349 Saratoga St - \$225,000
14945 Saturn Dr - \$268,000
353 West Juana Av - \$260,000
16645 Winding Bl - \$390,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 12
LOWEST PRICE: \$130,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$610,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$462,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$421,708

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$300,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$450,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$375,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$375,000

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 8
LOWEST PRICE: \$114,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$619,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$412,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$388,063

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST PRICE: \$339,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,731,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$428,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$731,750

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$190,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$273,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$231,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$232,250

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$200,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$241,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$230,667
AVERAGE PRICE: \$227,333

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 10
LOWEST PRICE: \$130,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$554,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$301,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$301,000

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST PRICE: \$247,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$250,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$248,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$248,500

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST PRICE: \$269,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$390,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$329,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$329,500

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Some may say I'm a dreamer...this property could make those dreams come true. Two great lots on a knoll with a huge flat area (croquet?). The views span the bay, the sunsets feed the soul. Neighborhood houses have sold for \$2M+. Close to highways, shopping and BART. Available separate (\$650,000 each) or together for \$1,300,000.

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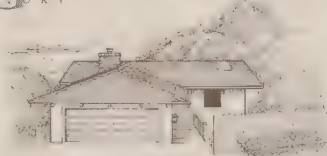
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450 Arlington Avenue, Berkeley

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Offered at \$599,000



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BACK ON THE MARKET

2805 Stanton Street, Berkeley



Open Sunday 2-4:30 P.m.

Affordable and pristine Berkeley Bungalow features a brick fireplace, formal dining room with built-in pass thru window, eat-in kitchen, 2 bedrooms, one bath, room and detached garage. Gorgeous hardwood floors throughout. Appliances included. Electronic lift to rear back porch with handicap accessible. Low maintenance fenced backyard and beautiful landscaped front yard.

Offered at \$389,000

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1021 LEO WAY



Privacy and serenity await you in this delightful two story row house. Among the many of its fine attributes are dramatic vaulted ceilings, chef's kitchen, elegant library, grand master suite & private outdoor pool. 4 plus bedrooms, 3 baths...price \$799,000. You are cordially invited to our open house Sunday, March 24th 2 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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★ ★ Open House - Sunday, March 17, 2002 1-5 ★ ★
★ ★ Open House - Sunday, March 24, 2002 1-5 ★ ★



5350
Bryant Avenue
\$ 475,000

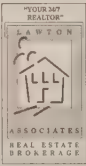
Charming Craftsman Bungalow in Rockridge

- 2 Bedroom/1 Bathroom
- Inviting Front Porch
- Remodeled Eat-in Kitchen
- Remodeled Bathroom
- Wood Floors
- Formal Dining
- Wonderful Back Yard
- Garage and Work Shop
- Fireplace in Dining Room
- Lots of Upgrades. Move-in Cond

* This home is in the Heart of Rockridge and is close to College Avenue Shops and many Fine Restaurants, Market Hall, BART, Freeways, Casual Carpooling to SF, Berkeley, Downtown Oakland, Emeryville, and Great Coffee.

Ron Kriss, Partner
547-5970 RonKriss@jps.net

Online Tour @ www.5350Bryant.com



Northbrae



Once upon a time . . .

Built in 1908 by the current owner's grandfather, this lovely Neoclassic Rowhouse has never before been offered for sale. Richly detailed with coved ceilings, redwood wainscoting and beautiful built-ins, this home offers a wonderful opportunity. Unspoiled by past updates, a little elbow-grease and fresh paint will return this classic house to its turn of the century splendor. 3+BD, 1+BA. Near Children's Hospital, walk to BART!

Offered at \$269,000

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Hopping along the bunny trail

BY BOBBIE REID
CORRESPONDENT

30, from noon to 3 p.m., you can visit with the big bunny at Independent Real Estate Brokers. IREB's corporate office is at 860 E. Lewelling Boulevard in Hay-

ward. Free photos will be available with the Bunny. Additionally, there are treats for the children. The annual visit with the Easter Bunny day is a 20-year tradition at IREB. The custom began in 1982 and many people take advantage of this photo opportunity year after year.

"We love presenting this event each year," said Bob Munoz, IREB's corporate president.

"Our crew has as much fun doing this as the children who attend. Our clients, neighbors and even people driving by stop in." Everyone is welcome to attend. Independent Real Estate Bro-

"We love presenting this event each year. Our crew has as much fun doing this as the children who attend. Our clients, neighbors and even people driving by stop in."

IREB corporate president Bob Munoz.

kers has 45 offices throughout California and the Bay Area, including Alameda and Oakland. For more Bunny information or directions call project coordinator Jackie Ruiz at 510-276-7900.



SOMETIMES HE JUST GETS TIRED OF HOPPING. The Easter Bunny is making some goody deliveries via automobile. Driving the Ralph Quintal, as the Easter Bunny. In the passenger's seat is Bob Munoz, president of Independent Real Estate Brokers. Munoz's backseat helpers (pictured left to right) are Realtor Lois and sisters Linda and Sariah Rodriguez.



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New Listing

Enchanting Country Estate

804 Acalanes Road, Lafayette
Located on approx. 2.46 acres of beautifully landscaped property covered in century old oaks. This newly crafted home has approx. 2,000 sq. ft. with 5 spacious bedrooms and 3 1/2 luxurious baths. The gourmet kitchen has an expansive family room with fireplace adjoining. A media/bonus room has approx. 600 sq. ft. and is wired for a projection screen and speakers. There is a shared tennis court. A pool with a pool house is ready for renovation. This beautifully crafted home has many luxurious amenities, it must be seen to be appreciated.

\$3,659,000

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COLDWELL BANKER
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Open Sunday

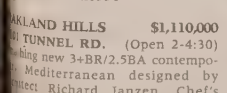
CLAREMONT \$1,495,000
100 ALVARADO RD. (Open 2-4)
New Priced Custom built re-creation of the original 1922 Colonial home. Exceptional quality & detailing. 4BR/3BA. Replaces, SF & GG views, double lot & garages. Leslie Easterday x1363



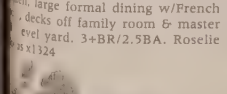
MONTCLAIR \$1,475,000
100 VIRGO RD. (Open 2-4:30)
Wonderful Mediterranean w/fabulous SF, ocean Gate, Bay Bridge view. Built by Jeff Thompson. Lots of built-ins & lots of extras. 4BR/3BA, 3 fireplaces, fully equipped gym. Nancy Heath x1357



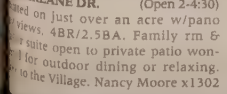
REDWOOD CITY \$1,450,000
100 CAMPUS DR. (Open 2-5)
Incredible, custom contemporary situated on 3+ acres w/panoramic views. 4BR/3.5BA, library, family room, rec room & more! Private Woodhead x1334



OAKLAND HILLS \$1,110,000
100 TUNNEL RD. (Open 2-4:30)
Building new 3+BR/2.5BA contemporary Mediterranean designed by architect Richard Janzen. Chef's kitchen w/fam rm combo, & beautiful courtyard. Dee Knowland x1318.



MONTCLAIR \$899,000
100 BROADWAY TERR. (Open 2-4:30)
Amazing Bay view contemporary w/unique touches throughout. Gourmet kitchen, large formal dining w/French doors, decks off family room & master level yard. 3+BR/2.5BA. Roselle Hsu x1324



MONTCLAIR \$849,000
100 FAIRLANE DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Built on just over an acre w/panoramic views. 4BR/2.5BA. Family rm & office open to private patio wonderful for outdoor dining or relaxing. Nancy Moore x1302

PACIFIC UNION

510.339.6460
www.pacunion.com

Open Sunday



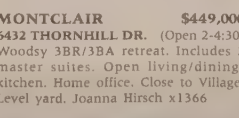
ROCKRIDGE \$699,000
5527 LAWTON AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Fabulous craftsman w/legal rental cottage. Gum wood details & hardwood floors throughout. 2+BR/1.5BA, redone kitchen & bath. Great location near BART & College Ave. Michelle Vasey x1359



MONTCLAIR \$610,000
1805 NORTHWOOD CT. (Open 2-4:30)
3BR/2.5BA contemporary w/bay & SF views. Open floor plan, vaulted ceilings. New carpet, brand new decks. On quiet cul-de-sac near parks & hiking. Dick Cohen x1308



BERKELEY \$585,000
1729 6TH STREET (Open 2-4:30)
Stylish 2 yr old home. Architectural beauty, artistic colors. Gourmet kit/fam rm. Near 4th St. shops. 2BR/2BA. Sophisticated! Nancy Noman x1373



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$499,000
39 HARBOR CT. (Open 2-4:30)
Charming Bungalow on quiet cul-de-sac in most sought after neighborhood. 2BR/1.5BA, living room w/fireplace & built-ins, landscaped yard. Ashley O'Neill x1368



Open Sunday

ALAMEDA \$325,000
1120 MARIANAS LANE (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Lovely 3BR/1.5BA two-story townhouse w/fireplace, wall to wall carpeting, private deck & two-car garage. Kathy Flynn x1317

PIEDMONT AVE. \$319,000
3945 HARRISON ST. #22 (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Light, bright corner unit w/walls of glass. Tranquil tree views. 2BR/2 updated baths, formal dining, pristine condition. Robyn Mohr x1310

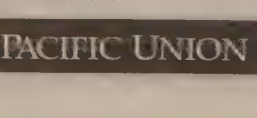
OAKLAND \$310,000
3734 McCLELLAND ST. (Open 2-4:30)
Charming 2BR/1BA home w/patio & large, fenced yard. Fireplace in living rm, FDR, attached garage. On 1-block long street near Hwy 13 & 580. Ann Nichols x1319



NORTH OAKLAND \$275,000
1061 66TH STREET (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Simply stunning 2BR/1BA 1920's Bungalow! Faux gum wood built-ins, sunny eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors. New paint in & out. Lorri Arazi x1330

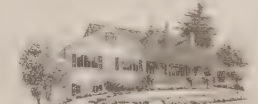


RICHMOND ANNEX \$299,000
1919 SAN BENITO ST. (Open 2-4)
New Listing! Beautifully redone sun filled retreat w/great indoor-outdoor living. Formal dining, updated kitchen w/skylights & gorgeous landscaped yard. Over 1300 sq. ft. Kim Habu x1378



By Appointment

PIEDMONT \$3,350,000
Award-winning design on approx. 1/2 acre in prime location. Extraordinary home w/6+BR/4.5BA, gourmet kitchen, family room & much more. Rich architectural detail & quality. Georgia Cornell x1325



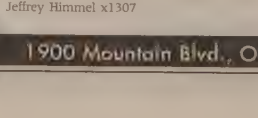
PIEDMONT \$1,400,000
New Listing! Remodeled & expanded 6BR/4.5BA home w/separate studio apartment above garage. Elegant formal rooms, beautiful kitchen/family room. Georgia Cornell x1325

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$1,200,000
Exquisite Crocker Highlands Normandy. Gracious public rooms rich w/detail & charm. Gourmet kitchen, library & living room open to private English gardens. 3BR/3BA up, 2BR/1BA down. Teri Carlisle x1305

OAKLAND HILLS \$1,195,000
Great 3BR/2.5BA ranch house on a gated acre w/panoramic bay views. Decks & patios w/views from each bedroom. Wonderful large level yard. Fabulous potential! Dee Knowland x1318

NORTH BERKELEY \$995,000
Spacious light filled 5+BR/3BA home w/wonderful Bay views. Lovely architectural details, recently updated, double lot w/gardens & level spaces for outdoor enjoyment. Leslie Avant x1341

MONTCLAIR \$859,000
Gorgeous 3 yr old 3912+- sq. ft. contemporary. Spacious formal living & dining rms. Chef's kit/fam rm combo. 4BR suites/4+BA. 3 fireplaces, 3 terraces w/lush canyon vistas. Jeffrey Himmel x1307



By Appointment



MONTCLAIR \$849,000
Adorable & charming 4 yr old traditional. 4BR/2.5BA, fantastic & graceful floorplan, level-out play area. Fabulous location. Nancy Moore x1302

NORTH BERKELEY \$750,000
Fabulous light filled 4BR/4BA home with 2nd unit. Panoramic Bay views, great floor plan, easy access to public transportation & parks. Anne Van Dyke x1399

PIEDMONT \$439,000
Charming 2BR/1BA craftsman home. Airy, modern kitchen/family room, spectacular South Bay view. Structural fixer-upper. Debi Fitzgerald x1306

EMERYVILLE \$260,000
Elegant & architectural two-story condo in exciting Emeryville warehouse complex. Sun filled spaces, loft bedroom, handsome kitchen & bath, secure garage. Anne Van Dyke x1399



PIEDMONT \$2,475,000
Elegant contemporary home w/5BR, 4 full baths & 2 half baths, gourmet kitchen, formal dining. Thoughtful architecture w/high ceilings & large skylit rooms. Sunny patios front & back. Debi Fitzgerald x1306



MONTCLAIR \$629,000
Charming 1937 expanded & remodeled cottage w/wonderful level yard areas & bay views. 3BR/2BA including master suite w/office & rumpus room. Donna Costella x1355



BERKELEY \$395,000
Ocean View charmer! Approx. 1641 sq. ft., 3BR/2BA plus family room. Level yard. Close to 4th Street shops. Jeffrey Himmel x1307

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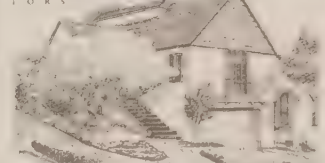
The GRUBB Co.



8149 Arizona Street, Oakland
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This charming traditional features 2BR/1.5BA & is located in the wonderful Laurel district. This exceptional home has refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchen, fireplace in the living room, detached garage & tranquil garden with fruit trees.
Offered at \$399,000

ANNE FESTE
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/371
Cell: 510.757.4787
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The GRUBB Co.



5940 Chabot Crest, Rockridge
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Beautiful Rockridge home! Light-filled and immaculate! There are three bedrooms & three bathrooms, two extra plus rooms, double garage, remodeled kitchen that opens to deck and garden. Coveted Rockridge location that boasts easy access to shops, BART & freeway.
Offered at \$660,000

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Upper Rockridge Treasure



Open Sunday 2-4:30

4921 Proctor Avenue

Spanish Mediterranean in exclusive upper Rockridge with dramatic entry and sweeping Bay views.

\$1,239,000

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SPECTACULAR VIEW LOT
Spectacular Bay & SF views from this one-of-a-kind site on a quiet cul-de-sac surrounded by trees. 17,702 sq. ft. includes preliminary architectural plans. Call Elizabeth Dickson

PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR LOT
Double upslope lot with potential. Surrounded on private road off Somerset Rd. Two lots also available. Great opportunity for estate. Debra J. Dryden

OAKLAND/BERKELEY LOT
Downslope lot with Bay view on private road with 2 other new homes that sold for over \$1M. Approx. 10,000 sq. ft. Great Opportunity. Debra J. Dryden

SOLD SOLD

RECENT TRANSACTIONS IN THE REAL ESTATE MARKET

ALBANY

830 Masonic

LP: \$319,000

SP: \$360,000

2 BR, 1 BA, 900 sq. ft.



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SOLD IN 10 DAYS!

ALAMO

Time on the market: 61 Days

2490 Lunada Ln.

Four bedrooms, 3 baths,

3123 square feet

Asking: \$1,100,000. Selling: \$1,000,000

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Ron Pratt

BERKELEY

1316 Henry, Berkeley

LP: \$439,000 SP: \$496,000

ALBANY

635 Adams, Albany LP: \$495,000 SP: \$550,000

520 Pomona, Albany LP: \$389,000 SP: \$420,000

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BERKELEY Hills REAL ESTATE & INVESTMENT

SOLD THIS MONTH

by Tim Cannon

Broker

WANTED: Homes for sale

Homes are in demand in this market... is the time to sell! Realtors, prove to our readers that you are a successful, active agent.

This new section will be featured weekly in Hills Newspapers and West County Times. To be included, please contact your ad rep or call

Emily (510) 262-2755

WELLS & BENNETT

531-7000 REALTORS

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30



MORAGA

3764 VIA GRANADA

\$775,000

Marvelous one-level rancher within walking distance to Campolindo High. Easy freeway access with close public transportation. Enjoy 4+BD/3.5BA, family room, FDR, living room w/fireplace and spacious bonus room. Double garage w/interior access. Must see! Carol Robbiano 925-746-6415



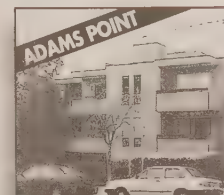
REDWOOD HEIGHTS

4168 EASTLAKE AVENUE

\$495,000

New Listing! Enjoy superb Bay and City views from this handsome 3/2 home located in the Redwood Heights. Excellent floor plan and lovely art deco details add to the character of this architecturally very attractive home. Close to Hwy. 13 & Hwy. 580.

Heidi Tuggle 531-7000 x286 or 531-4554



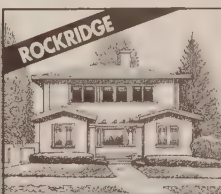
ADAMS POINT

407 ORANGE STREET

\$1,100,000

1/1 900+ sq. ft. living room, kitchen, wall to wall Pleasant tree view. Set-up

Patsy Bubler 531-7000



ROCKRIDGE

5515 CARLTON STREET

\$725,000

Stately 1916 Prairie-Craftsman fusion. Living room, formal dining room, library with original wood paneling and details. Phone closet with stained glass door. Breakfast room. Five bedrooms. A classic home for family and entertaining.

Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246



OAKLAND

555 10TH STREET #409

\$349,000

Wonderful 2BD/2BA condo in downtown, loft area for office or den, top floor unit in 1998 building, living room w/20' ceiling, walk to BART, restaurants, & shopping!

Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228 or 436-4100



OAKLAND

651 OAKLAND AVENUE

\$1,100,000

Condo - 1BD/1.5BA - deck and patio - public transportation, near BART and Piedmont Ave. and shopping

Kevin Kennedy 531-7000

BY APPOINTMENT



ALAMEDA

HOME, INCOME, & BOAT DOCK

\$750,000

Spanish Mediterranean duplex with enormous architectural charm. Two bedroom, two bath and one bedroom, one bath units with wood trim, FDR, breakfast rooms, laundry, garages, plus deep water boat dock.

Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246 or 839-5846



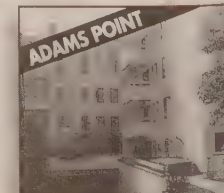
JACK LONDON SQUARE

VIBRANT AND STYLISH LOFT

\$299,000

Tower loft project; Northeast light, slate and wood bath with Jacuzzi tub, mezzanine bedroom, warm colors, kitchen with island, quiet cool!

Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246



ADAMS POINT

IDEAL LOCATION

2,2 Wonderful location, levels, unit w/ patio Great for relaxing New year

Patsy Bubler 531-7000

LAND

TALK ABOUT LOCATION! - SOMMERSET RD. OAKLAND

\$245K-\$285K

2 contiguous lots within Oakland, located about 200 feet out of the city of Piedmont. Homes in this area sell a million to 2 million. Bay View too!

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235 or 654-6461

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3 contiguous lots. Buy 1, 2, or all. Upslopes, utilities at front of lots. Design approved building plans. Soil report available. Financing available. Area of new homes.

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Oakland Realtors set new goals

OAKLAND ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS
OAKLAND — The Oakland Association of Realtors has reconvened its Oral Lee Brown fund-raising task force. Last year the group met its goal by raising \$18,000 to support the Oral Lee Brown Foundation, and the funds were presented at the annual OAR officer installation banquet.

The foundation was established by Realtor Oral Lee Brown, who promised a first-grade class of disadvantaged pupils that if they worked hard and stayed in school they would pay their way through college. Nineteen of the original 23 will soon be college graduates. Recently, Oral Lee made the same commitment to three more groups of 20 students each, a first-

'It's so rewarding to give regularly to a truly deserving cause.'

Task force chairperson Lois Harris

grade class, a fifth-grade class and a ninth-grade class. The Oakland Association of Realtors has also made a commitment to help.

For the year 2002 the OAR task force has set its goal at \$20,000, plans to encourage the Realtors to come through again for Oral Lee's kids.

Donations have been made by Realtors through on-going contributions from commissions at the close of each escrow, and from many one-time donations.

Realtor Lois Harris, of Prudential California Realty says, "It's so rewarding to give regularly to a truly deserving cause."

OAR has received support from neighboring associations and hopes to benefit from their generosity again this year.

Contact Lois Harris, OLB Task Force Chairperson, Oakland Association of Realtors, 1528 Webster St. in Oakland, or call Harris at 510-834-2010.

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★ Indicates Homes Being Held Open

OAKLAND/PIEDMONT

★ Open Sunday \$129,000
5561 Bacon Rd. Sophisticated contemporary w/S.F. views, all one level, magnificent indoor pool, 1 acre lot, 4 BR & 3.5 BA. Updated kit.

Glass/Sabine
(510) 428-0900

★ Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,239,000
921 Proctor Ave. Spanish Mediterranean 4 BR/3.5 BA has dramatic entry & sweeping Bay views!

Heidi Marchesotti
(510) 339-9290

★ Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$799,000
1021 Leo Way. Privacy & serenity Awaits. Sunny contemporary w/4 BR & 3 BA, chef's kitchen, elegant library, master suite w/Jacuzzi & sauna.

Glass/Sabine
(510) 428-0900

★ Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$719,000
1227 Ashmount Avenue. Normandy fixer w/4 BR, 3 BA, endless potential, in great location.

Davidotero.com
(510) 339-9290

Redwood Heights! \$639,000
Large home w/5 BR, 3.5 BA. New paint, carpets, kitchen. Great landscaping. Shows very well.

Sovanna Yorn
(510) 527-9800

Upper Rockridge Gem! \$549,000
New listing! Quality, light, warm! Gorgeous garden off remodeled kitchen. Bonus room, 2/1.

Julie Lehman
(510) 845-0211

A Fabulous Co-op! \$385,000
Lake Merritt elegance in move-in condition, in prestigious bldg. 608 Sq. ft., storage, 24 hr. sec., w/g, cable, heat.

Caroline Slotemaker de Bruine
(510) 287-8856

★ Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$349,000
10774 - 62nd St. Well cared for duplex. Ea. unit 1/1 w/private garden on lg. level lot.

Kurt Meyer
(510) 339-9290

Duplex On Macarthur! \$295,000
2 BR/1 BA & 1 BR/1 BA. Section 8 high rents, new roof, paint in/out, near Eastmont & transportation.

Di Allen-Thompson
(510) 845-0200

★ Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$295,000
1104 Peralta. Classic, spacious 4 BR/2 1/2 BA Victorian & + room on large lot w/RV/Boat parking.

Felicia Owens
(510) 339-9290

★ Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$278,000
5341 Normandie Ave. Maxwell Park Treasure. Charming and light wood-sided cottage; new roof, freshly painted inside. Large living room, dining room, two BR, all with hardwood floors. Spacious yard, detached garage.

Nancy Tausig
(510) 986-9563
www.pruweb.com/NancyTausig

★ Open Saturday 2-5 \$275,000
4425 West St. Large 2 BR, 1 BA, full basement, detached garage.

Jay C/Muriel
(510) 834-2010

Loft Style Condo! \$259,000
2 Story, lg. balc., f.p., some water vu. Walk to Jack London Sq., trans., & ferry. 1/1+.

Joan Morrow
(510) 297-4019

★ Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$195,000
731 E. 20th St. 2 Unit fixer w/potential.

Luis Castillo-Munoz
(510) 834-2010

BERKELEY/ALBANY

★ Open Sunday 2-4 \$570,000
841 Talbot. One-Of-A-Kind Albany! Lg. home used as 5 BR, 4 BA. Upgraded! Great schools!

Vanessa Smith
(510) 524-2526

Walk 4th, Bike Marinal \$375,000
Splendid 3 BR close to city amenities. Country kit/great rm. VT @ pruwab.com/arleneacuna

Arlene Acuna
(510) 869-5851

Charming Berkeley Home! \$335,000
Charming 3 BR Berkeley corner home in a great location. Priced to sell. Won't last long.

Wilbert Ross, Jr.
(510) 967-9120

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Cuter Starter Home! \$219,000
Remodeled 2 BR/1 BA, sweet home in great location. Close to BART, bus, shops, school, freeway.

Ivan & Michael
(510) 869-4504
(510) 527-9800

Needs Work! \$98,500
Conveniently located contractor's special. Boarded - Must do work before move-in.

Logene Butler
(510) 524-2526

VALLEJO
Gorgeous! \$279,000
Charming & well maintained 3 BR/2.5 BA house in cul-de-sac. Under priced for quick sale.

Joseph Kim
(510) 337-8670

ALAMEDA COUNTY

★ Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$575,000
2217 San Antonio, Alameda. Victorian Jewel w/3+BR/1+BA, is a perfect retreat for commuter!

Hope Broderick
(510) 339-9290

★ Open Sunday! \$425,000
827 Santa Clara, Alameda. Wonderful 2 BR/1.5 BA Victorian w/lots of potential and large backyard.

Herb Manor
(510) 339-9290

Price Reduction! \$99,500
Senior mobile home in Pleasanton - Double wide 2 BR/2 BA. Sunroom, spa, clubhouse and much more.

Muriel Dixon or Jay Coleman
(510) 834-2010

★ Open Sunday 2-4 \$263,611
26361 Regal Ave., Hayward. New paint, carpet, lino - Large glass door to deck. Big backyard.

Nora Moakher
(510) 834-2010

LOTS FOR SALE

Orinda Hilltop Retreat! \$695,000
3+ Acres. Private w/Mt. Diablo & Reservoir views. Approved plans for 5800 sq. ft. home or purchase completely built for \$3,995,000.

Charles Turvey
(510) 433-9803
(510) 849-3711

RESIDENTIAL INCOME

Mixed-Use Property! \$379,000
Unique! 2 Commercial Units, plus 2 Residential units. Endless possibilities!

Logene Butler
(510) 524-2526

Walnut Creek Duplex! \$495,000
Spacious duplex in great location w/large 2 BR units. Call for showing times.

George Millirons
(510) 339-9290

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EL CERRITO	GRAND LAKE	KENSINGTON	MONTCLAIR	PIEDMONT
510-527-9800	510-834-2010	510-526-5143	510-339-9290	510-428-0900

Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on page B13.

The GRUBB Co. Recently Sold in Crocker Highlands

1039 Clarendon Crescent
Originally offered at \$795,000
Represented the Buyers

1072 Hubert Road
Originally offered at \$795,000
Represented the Sellers

1087 Hubert Road
Originally offered at \$849,000
Represented the Buyers

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NONI ROBINSON
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1558 Holman Road
Represented the Sellers

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MARVIN GARDENS REAL ESTATE
When it's your move...

POINT RICHMOND. 400 Western Drive \$1,095,000
Spectacular Sunsets! Sophisticated 4BR, 3BA contemporary beauty only 30 mins. from SF. Golden Gate & City views from most rooms and decks. Gourmet kitchen, FDR, lovely living room, master ste. w/deck, walk-in closet, weight rm., more. Walk to beach.

Open Sun 1-4 Jeri Jones (510) 559-2902

RICHMOND. 2560 Duke Avenue \$323,500
Spacious home with all amenities! 3BR, 2.5BA great living room with vaulted ceilings, fireplace air conditioning. Sliding glass doors to upper garden & deck, huge family room downstairs w/fireplace. Big back yard w/patio, deck, landscaped garden.

Open Sun 2-4 Olga Stepanjan (510) 559-2921

RICHMOND ANNEX. 5319 Carl Avenue \$275,000
Affordable 2BR home with many new details. Upgraded kitchen & bath, beautiful hardwood floors, new dual pane windows, new roof, new water heater, new garage door. Huge level fenced back yard, walking distance to market & transportation.

Open Sun 2-4 Darrell Hob (510) 559-2905

BERKELEY. 551 Neilson St. \$499,000
Sweet & Delectable Storybook Charming. Located in fabulous Thousand Oaks neighborhood a block from Colusa Circle & a short stroll to Solano Ave. Architecturally interesting, 2BR/1BA, lovely multi-paned windows, matchstick hardwood floors, fireplace.

Open Sun 1-5 Terry Pedersen (510) 527-2700 x36

EL CERRITO. 6608 Portola Drive \$349,000
A Gardener's Delight! Beautifully appointed traditional filled with natural sunlight. Built circa 1946 on a large level lot w/south & west exposures. Featuring two bedrooms plus a "garden room", oak floors, new central heat, vintage kitchen w/corner window, attached garage, & ample storage.

Open Sun 2-4 Kathie Berg (510) 527-2700 x34

OAKLAND. 842 Creed Road \$569,000
Designer Showcase! 3+ BR/1.5BA New marble bath, remodeled kitchen, hwd. floors. Large plus room for office or play. Stunning!

Open Sun 2-4:30 Luanne Warner (510) 527-2700 x29

7502 Fairmount Ave.
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1577 Solano Ave.
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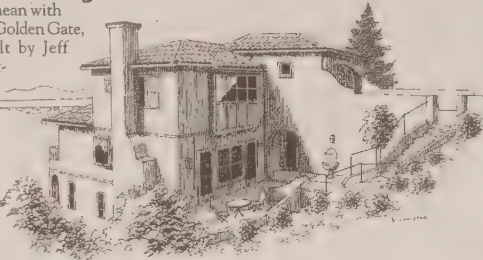
Space Reservations: **MONDAY, 12 Noon** Copy Requiring Typesetting: **MONDAY, 5 pm**

Copy & Artwork: **TUESDAY, 12 Noon** Open Home Guide: **WEDNESDAY, 12 Noon**

Open Sunday, March 24, 2-4:30pm
NEW LISTING!

6191 Virgo Road, Oakland

Wonderful Mediterranean with fabulous San Francisco, Golden Gate, Bay Bridge view. Built by Jeff Armstrong, lots of built-ins, and lots of extras. 3BR/2.5BA plus master suite with fireplace & sitting room, formal dining room, living & family rooms with fireplaces, library and fully equipped gym.



Offered at \$1,475,000



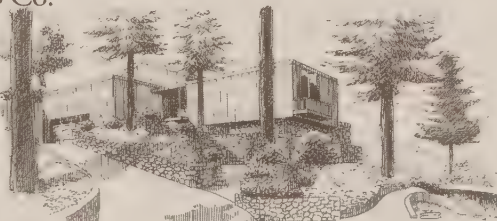
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32 Mall Court, Piedmont Pines

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2330 VINE STREET



Built with astounding quality in 1930 as a performance studio, this dramatic one-bedroom home features exquisite architectural details, rich woodwork, an unbelievably grand leaded glass window and a formal garden.

\$650,000

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Colleen Larkin

Thornwall Properties (510) 848-1950 x240



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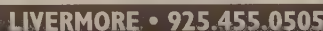
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LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE BAY AREA

The GRUBB Co.
LONDON



Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on page B13

BERKELEY HILLS REALTY

510.524.9888
www.berkhills.com

Open Homes: Sunday, March 24



931 Mendocino, Berkeley. Just Listed!
Open Sun., 2-4.
Handsome, gracious prairie-style traditional on one of Berkeley's most coveted streets. Lovely formal rooms. Move-in condition. Remodeled kitchen/family room opens to extensive deck. 6 bedrooms, 3 baths! \$1,200,000. Nancy Mueller x20



5742 Hermann Street, Oakland. Just Listed!
Open Sun., 2-4:30.
Home, What a Sweet Home! Adorable 2+ bedroom cottage in convenient No. Oakland. Close to all the urban delights of Rockridge. Quiet one-block street, yet super freeway access. Central fireplace. Wood floors. Clawfoot tub in bathroom. Enclosed front porch. Private back patio. A sweetheart! \$285,000. Arlene Baxter x19



543 - 42nd Street, Oakland. Open Sun., 2-4.
Stately 1910 Victorian located in the convenient Temescal neighborhood of Oakland close to BART and shops. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, spacious study in developed attic, formal dining room with original built-ins. 2-car detached garage. \$469,000. Joan Brunswick x12

1519 Oxford #J, Berkeley. Open Sun., 2-4.
Sunny, spacious flat in beautifully maintained co-op building. Best location close to U.C. and all the amenities of North Berkeley. Loan may be available with large down payment. Gorgeous stained glass window in dining room, living room with fireplace and bookcases. Kitchen with tile counters. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Quiet top unit; no shared walls. \$385,000. Maya Trilling x18

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January



Heather Washington
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907 Hillcroft Circle, Crocker Highland
Offered at \$895,000
Open Sunday 2-4:30

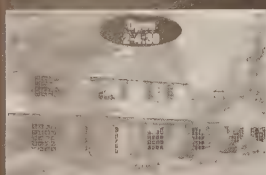
ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY, CRS
BROKER ASSOCIATE
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/217

GRUBB Co.

COLDWELL BANKER PREVIEW International



HILLCREST ESTATES
5BR/6BA.....\$1,975,000
Stunning 1981 Contemporary! Flooded with natural light, created with entertainment in mind; handsome pool complete with waterfall & spa. Ruby Ng, CRS.....510.339.4700



2666 Carisbrook
4+BR/2.5BA.....\$949,000
Wonderful Cape Cod on large corner lot. Formal dining, kitchen/family room, library, 2 fireplaces, good indoor-outdoor living, pretty outlooks. Open Sunday. Brian Hymer.....510.339.4700

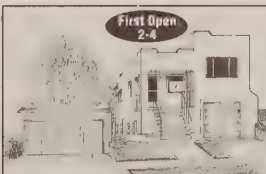
5515 Gwen Rd., Montclair
Stunning Contemporary - Sweeping Bay/Bridge Views!
4+BR/4.5BA.....\$1,875,000
located on a quiet cul-de-sac, this masterpiece was built to capture breathtaking views, beautiful sunsets & city lights from almost every room: the open light-filled interior has soaring ceilings, arched doorways & hardwood floors. French doors open to a tranquil landscaped courtyard. Other features include a large extra room w/separate entrance for office/5th bedroom, serene study, open kitchen/dining room, combo, elegant gallery hall, 3 master suites & 3-car garage. Elegance, comfort, serenity & forever views are yours to enjoy in this magnificent home! Open Sunday. Vicky Faulk.....510.339.4700

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705 SANTA FE, ALBANY \$329,000
Sweet split-level. 2 blocks to Solano Ave, bus stop on the corner. Come see this 2BR/1BA home. Large kitchen w/separate laundry room & a sunny garden. 1 car garage attached. Open Sunday. Diane Verducci/Sarah Shankman . 510.486.1495



1302 ALBINA, BERKELEY \$565,000
Doubly delightful duplex near Monterey Market. Owner occupied & well cared for. Each has 2BR/1BA, frpl, dining area, built-in laundry & separate outdoor space. Off-street parking. Open Sunday. Diane Verducci.....510.486.1495



5842 Mendocino Ave., Upper Rockridge \$629,000
2+BR/1BA. Entertain in style! This gem has been newly updated with a fabulous eat-in kitchen which opens to a garden deck with an S.F. view. Open Sunday. Michael Thompson.....510.339.4700



3942 LYMAN ROAD, OAKLAND \$599,800
3+BR/3BA. Extra large lot prominently landscaped, sunny updated kitchen floors, au-pair w/separate entrance. Darcy Diamantini.....510.339.4700

FIRST OPEN

1320 4TH ST., BERKELEY.....\$289,000
Sunday 1:30-4. West Berkeley 4 level loft in Tannery Loft Complex. Kitchen has copper counter tops & maple cabinets, tiled floors in kitchen & bath. Josh Whitmer.....510.486.1495
3255 MONTEREY BLVD.....\$602,000
Sunday 1-4. Sunny Spacious contemporary in Redwood Heights. Balconies, bay views, 5+BR/3BA, HWF, FDR, skylights, large lot. Like New! Elizabeth Malkasian.....510.339.4700
2809 DARNBY, MONTCLAIR.....\$505,000
Sunday 2-5. 3BR/2BA. Live in your own park! Great yard w/peek of water view. A light-filled contemporary indoor/outdoor living, fresh paint inside. Judy O. Ackerman.....510.339.4700
6152 MAURITANIA.....\$329,000
Sunday 2-4:30. 2BR/1.25BA. Charming remodeled Bungalow near Mills College. "Newish" roof, electrical, plumbing & kitchen, gleaming hardwood floors, views & more. Dell Ott.....510.339.4700

OPEN SUNDAY

6560 ESTATES, PIEDMONT SIDE/MONTCLAIR.....\$675,000
Sunday 2-4:30. 4BR/3BA. Great space. Rec. room w/wet bar, 2 fireplaces, plank & parquet floors, new paint, kitchen linoleum. Nancy Dickey, CRS/Becky Anderson.....510.339.4700
4954 TRINIDAD AVE., JOAQUIN MILLER.....\$579,000
Sunday 2-5. Rare find! Unique 1961 contemporary on large lot. Great indoor/outdoor spaces. Bay view! Private feel! Soaring ceilings. 3BR/2BA. Ruby Ng.....510.339.4700
514-516 VALLE VISTA.....\$575,000
Sunday 1-5. Stunning duplex. Main house 3+BR/1.5BA w/updated kitchen & formal dining room, gleaming hardwood floor & large, level yard. Second unit 1BR/1BA. Nader Davani.....510.339.4700
6660 PINE NEEDLE DR.....\$569,000
Sunday 2-5. 3BR/2+BA. new paint & carpets, open floor plan with decks, fireplace, beamed ceilings; fantastic canyon wooded views. Open Sunday. Jeffrey Neideman.....510.339.4700
4127 LAUREL.....\$438,000
Sunday 2-5. Charming Laurel District Bungalow w/Bay view. 2BR/1BA & plus room, pretty yard, updated kitchen, newer systems. A real gem! Donna Conroy.....510.339.4700
4172 WILSHIRE BLVD., LINCOLN HEIGHTS.....\$499,000
Sunday 2-5. Stunning City/Bay views & level yard! Lots of light & space in this one-owner, meticulously cared for home. 2+BR/2BA, formal dining, 2-car garage. Rachel Butler.....510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

BERKELEY.....\$369,000
Split personality-live/work condo. Terrific design in great location. Light, wood, high ceilings & courtyard w/fountain. Ideal for small business, art work, photography. Diane Verducci.....510.486.1495
OAKLAND.....\$285,000
Cute 3BR/1BA Craftsman. Sunny & bright w/hardwood floors, large rear yard. Close to Mills College. 35th. MacArthur & Food Mill.510.486.1495
BERKELEY.....\$989,000
11BR/4+BA, central location, owner occupied with 12 rooms rented; many improv., nice neighborhood. Jeffrey Neideman.....510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

HILLER HIGH LANDS.....\$499,800
Stunning 3BR/2BA Hiller Highland home. Spacious & light, elegant custom details, home w/ Beautiful Carolyn Devol.....
BERKELEY.....\$500,000
Wonderful Queen Anne on tree-lined street w/vu of the Bay & Mt. Tam. Three large units w/ new foundation & roof, large backyard Victor Fierro
LAKE MERRITT LUXURY.....\$1,200,000
Lakeview condo in prestige building: hardwood floors, fireplace, formal dining room, new kitchen, world charm. Lydia Nayo.....
OAKLAND HILLS.....\$500,000
2BR/1BA, rumpus room w/bar, workshop, great storage, level tiered yard, excellent condition Jon Dunn.....
BERKELEY.....\$500,000
Cute Victorian-style duplex, each unit 2+BR/1BA, spacious garage, deck, and fabulous garden w/ Jillian Strawn.....
OAKLAND.....\$500,000
4BR/2BA. Large back yard, "fixer-as-is." Don't miss it! Mahnaz Judson.....

LOTS

1674 RISPIN DR.....\$500,000
Vacant lots (3), Oakland/Berkeley border. Best value. Over 35,000 SQ. FT. Upslope lots w/ views of Claremont. Old plans for spectacular or modest home. Diana Kay
OAKLAND/MONTCLAIR.....\$500,000
Multiple lots available - various size/price. David Eckert.....
O PIERSON.....\$500,000
Maxwell Park. Perfect site for income prop. or condos. Directly across from Mills College entrance w/ Fritz Hochfellner.....

BUYER NEEDS

Preferably in Berkeley hills & Thousand Oaks area. 4BR/2BA home up to \$1,200,000 & Barbara Marienthal, 510-981-3036.
Light-filled contemporary in Berkeley. 3BR/2BA plus garden. Up to \$1,000,000. Please call 510-981-3033.
Elmwood/LeConte School. 3+BR/2BA, sunny yard, fixer o.k. Up to \$700,000. Please call 510-981-3011.
Gourmet Ghetto of Berkeley. Single family, 3+BR/1+BA, garden, 4 kids, up to \$800,000 Allen, 510-981-3034.
Rockridge or No. Berkeley. 2BR or more, craftsman or classic bungalow up to \$500,000 Giarratana, 510-981-3031.
Berkeley hills or Kensington, minimum 2500 sq. ft., lots of light, 3 BR/2 BA or more, \$500,000 \$1,100,000. Please call Maura Allen 510.981.3034.

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Oakland
510.339.4700

COLDWELL BANKER
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

1495 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley
510.486.1495

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1366 34th St Open Saturday Kathy Heston 510-814-4708 Harbor Bay Realty	1 + BA/1BA	104	\$235,000
3734 McClelland St (Remodel) Pacific Union	280/1BA Sun	2-4:30	\$310,000
1104 Paralta Felicia Owens Prudential-Montclair, 510-338-9290	4bd/2.55b Sun	2-4:30	\$295,000
5341 Normandie Nancy Tammy, Prudential-Castroville, 510-645-2211	2bd/1ba Sun	2-4:30	\$278,000
4425 West 81 Jay Coleman & Muriel Dorian, Prudential CA Realty	2bd/1ba/1 + 2 b/g	2	\$275,000
5277 Lawton Ave Hertl, Oakland Pacific Union	280/1BA Sun	2-4:30	\$275,000
758 Kingston #102 RED OAK, 510-286-2134, Pitzer	1/1 condo	Sun 2-4	\$205,000
731 E 29th St Luis D. Castillo-Munoz, Prudential CA Realty	2bd/2ba Sun	2-4:30	\$195,000
407 Orange St #206 Wells & Bennett Realtors Patsy Butler	1BD/1BA	2-4:30	\$185,000
851 Oakland Ave #3F Wells & Bennett Realtors/Kennedy/510-531-7000/233	1BD/1BA	2-4:30	\$185,000
1428 Madison St #101 Tom Winter/Peter Wain, 510-834-2010	1bd/1ba Sun	2-4:30	\$145,000
842 Creed Rd Luanne Warner, Martin Gardens, 510-527-2700	3 + .75BA Sun	2-4:30	\$—

PIEDMONT

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
303 Pacific Ave Nancy Lehnrich The Grubb Co.	680d/4ba Sun	2-4:30	\$2,950,000
505 Scenic Ave The Grubb Co.	480/3ba Sun	2-4:30	\$1,069,000
215 Ramona Clare Cunningham, Prudential, 510-429-9500	3 + .3ba/Sun	2-4:30	\$895,000
22 Wildwood Ave The Grubb Co.	480/2 + 1ba Sun	2-4:30	\$698,000
3945 Harrison St Pacific Union	2bd/2ba Sun	2-4:30	\$310,000
1522 Wildwood Ave OPEN SUNDAY. Better Homes	380/1.5BA	2-4:30	On Request

PLEASANT HILL

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1751 Millburn Dr RED OAK, 510-280-2123, Simone	4bd/2ba Sun	2-4:30	\$468,000

POINT RICHMOND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
400 Western Dr Jarl Jones, Martin Gardens, 510-559-2902	4bd/3ba	Sun 1-4	\$1,095,000

RICHMOND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2150 Sand Dollar Dr Open Sun. Gallagher & Lindsey, Michael Schwabert 877-865-2729	3bd/3ba	1	\$478,000
2660 Duke Ave Ogo Stapanian, Martin Gardens, 510-559-2921	3bd/2.5b Sun	2-4	\$323,500
1918 San Benito St Richmond Annex Pacific Union	New Listing Sun	2-4:30	\$299,000
170 Malcolm RED OAK, 510-280-2124, Cindy	6w/2.5	Sun	\$279,900
5318 Carl Ave Dorrell Holt, Martin Gardens, 510-559-2905	2bd/1	Sun 2-4	\$275,000
757 36th St (N&E) RED OAK, 510-280-2123, Tom	2bd/2ba	Sun 2-4	\$244,500

SAN LEANDRO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
279-291 Bristol Blvd Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential, Nancy Bion, 510-337-8570	1BD/1BA	EN	\$289,500

OAKLAND					OAKLAND				
Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price	Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price		
13470 Campus Dr Hedgemont Pacific Union	4803/3/BA	2-4	\$1,450,000	2815 Burton Dr Steve Ogborn, Broker	4bd/3ba	2-4/30	\$695,000		
	Woodchase		(510) 338-1134						
5561 Bacon Rd Shelbi Spencer, Prudential	4bd/2.5ss	2-4/30	\$1,295,000	1708 Trellis Glen Rd Dorothy Highlands The Grubb Co.	3bd/2BA	2-4/30	\$899,000		
	410-335-5555				Bettina Balteshof	(510) 339-4000			
4921 Proctor Ave Held Marchand, Prudential-Montreal	4bd/3.5ss	2-4/30	\$1,239,000	13085 Broadway Ter- FCB	4BD/3BA	1-4	\$688,000		
	510 333-9250								
2111 Tunnel Rd Pacific Union	3802/1/BA	2-4/30	\$1,110,000	Don Wal Village Associates (925) 254-0505					
	Dee Knowland	(510) 338-1118							
119 Bristol Dr Bridgeway Hill	580/4BA	2-4/30	\$1,080,000	6560 Estates Dr Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY	4BD/3BA	2-4/30	\$675,000		
	The Grubb Co.	(510) 338-0400			Colwell Banker	N. Dickery, Anderson	(510) 339-4700		
2666 Carlabook Ave Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY	4 - / - 2 +	2-4/30	\$945,000	5940 Crest The Grubb Co.	3 - / - /BA	2-4/30	\$660,000		
	Colwell Banker	Dian Nymer	(510) 338-4700		Susan Schell	(510) 339-0430			
7038 Broadway Terr Pacific Union	3 - 2+/BA	2-4/30	\$899,000	9 Treasure Hill Hill Highlands, OPEN SUNDAY	2BD/2 - BA	2-4/30	\$645,000		
	roselle Woods	(510) 338-1124			Gayle Tamm	510 333-8900, 1250	C21 Heritage R/L		
907 Hillcroft Cir Crocker Highlands	580/4/1/BA	2-4/30	\$895,000	6272 Crown Avenue The Grubb Co.	3 - BD/3BA	2-4/30	\$633,000		
	Asian Pettit Tunney	(510) 339-0400			Karen Starr	(510) 339-0400			
6000 Grizzly Peak Blvd. Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY	3bd/3ba	2-4/30	\$880,000	870-872 Erie St Upper Lakeshore The Grubb Co.	(2) 2bd Units/BA	2-4/30	\$633,000		
	Better Homes	Laurel Strand	(510) 339-0400		Edu Kuo	(510) 339-0400			
6333 Fairlane Dr Pacific Union	4802/1/BA	2-4/30	\$848,000	5942 Mendocino Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY	2 - BD/1BA	2-5	\$628,000		
	Nancy Moore	(510) 338-1392			Colwell Banker	Michael Thompson	(510) 339-4700		
3425 Brumell HED/DM, 510-200-2111, Pat	4bd/2.5ss	2-4/30	\$848,000	428 Bellevue Ave Adams Point The Grubb Co.	4 - BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$625,000		
					Elizabeth Dickson	(510) 339-0400			
230 Sheridan Rd Upper Rockledge The Grubb Co.	380/3BA	2-4/30	\$825,000	1605 Northwest Ct Pacific Union	3802/1/BA	2-4/30	\$610,000		
	John Kurray	(510) 339-0400			Dick Cohen	(510) 338-1130			
1021 Leo Way Glass/Salea, Prudential	4bd/3ba/2	2-4/30	\$799,000	2255 Monterey Redwood Heights, OPEN SUNDAY	5 - BD/3BA	1-4	\$862,000		
	510-325-0565				Colwell Banker	Elizabeth Malkasian	(510) 339-0400		
6001 Avoca Ave. Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY	3bd/2.5ba	2-4/30	\$775,000	3424 Lyman Road Oakland, OPEN SUNDAY	3 - BD/3BA	1-5	\$599,000		
	Better Homes	Mahin Rajabi	510-339-4700		Colwell Banker	Darcy Diamante	(510) 339-4700		
6228 Chabot Rd The Grubb Co.	3 - BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$775,000	5955 Keith Ave The Grubb Co.	3 - BD/1BA/BA	2-4/30	\$599,000		
	Tricia Swift	(510) 339-0400			Kelvin Co.	Debbi Dimaggio	(510) 339-0400		
4350 Bridgeview Dr Upper Rockledge The Grubb Co.	3 - BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$749,000	110 Glenwood Glade - 2 - bdr/2a Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY	2 - bdr/2a	1-4/30	\$580,000		
	Sherry Benninger	(510) 339-0400			Better Homes	Dece Rosala	510-339-0400		
489 Pershing Dr Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY	4BD/3.5BA	2-4/30	\$749,000	4854 Trinidad Joseph Miller, OPEN SUNDAY	3BD/2BA	2-5	\$579,000		
	Mel Copland	510 333-8900, 1255	C21 Heritage R/L		Colwell Banker	Ruby Hig	(510) 339-4700		
6602 Chelton Dr Collette Ford, Prudential	3bd/2 - / -	2-4/30	\$729,000	516 Valle Vista Rose Garden, OPEN SUNDAY	4 - 4 - / - 2 -	1-5	\$575,000		
	510-845-0211				Colwell Banker	Nader Davari	(510) 339-4700		
5515 Carlton St Rockledge	580/1/1/BA	2-4/30	\$725,000	6606 Pine Needle Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY	2BD/2BA	2-5	\$569,000		
	Wells & Bennett Realtors San Hammond	(510) 531-7000-45			Colwell Banker	Jeffrey Hedin	(510) 339-4700		
1227 Ashmont Ave David Otero, Prudential-Montreal	4bd/3bd/2	2-4/30	\$718,						

Rick Jones	Lawton Associates	(510) 547-5970
3525 Jordan Road	2 - bdr/1ba	2-430 \$465,000
Bedroom Heights	OPEN SUNDAY	
Better Homes	Richard Keeling	510-339-4000
434 42nd St	4bd/2ba	Sun 2-4 \$469,000
Joan Brensky, Berkeley Hills Realty	510-524-9834	
4623 Thornhill Dr	3BD/3BA Sun	2-430 \$443,000
Maritz Pacific Union	Joanna Hirsch	(510) 338-1366
443 65th St (Rock-ridge)	3bd/7ba	Sun 2-4 \$438,000
RED OAK, 510-280-2144	Barbara	
6701 Gristlebury	2 + 1/2ba Sun	2-430 \$438,000
Nancy Hickey, Prudential CA, 510-428-4900		
4127 Laurel	2 - BD/1BA	2-5 \$436,000
Laurel, OPEN SUNDAY	Donna Conroy	(510) 339-4700
1449 Arizona St	2BD/1 1/2BA Sun	2-430 \$399,000
The Grub Co.	Anne Feste	(510) 339-0400
1 Kellen Ct., #100	2BD/2.5BA	2-430 \$338,000
OPEN SUNDAY, Better Homes	Nahid Nassiri	(510) 339-8400
2263 Madeline St	3BD/2BA Sun	2-430 \$388,000
Linell The Grub Co.	Adam Beate	(510) 339-0400
5779 Ayala (Rock-ridge)	+ 1/8 bdr	Sun 2-4 \$378,000
510-216-2455, Virginia	Radio	
407 Orange, #501	2 - BD/2BA	2-5 \$375,000
Adams Point, OPEN SUNDAY, Colwell Banker	Phyllis Wherry	(510) 339-4700
155 Lakeside Dr #100	2BD/2BA Sun	2-430 \$375,000
Laurel The Grub Co.	Ed Kuo	(510) 339-0400
2803 Atwell Ave	3bd/2ba Sun	2-430 \$369,000
Tim Martin, Landmark Real Estate, 510-982-0120		
2803 Atwell Ave, OPEN SUNDAY, Tim Martin	4bd/3ba	2-430 \$369,000
Prudential Landmark	510-982-0121	
1555 Lakeside Dr #30	2BD/2BA Sun	2-430 \$365,000
Laurel The Grub Co.	Ed Kuo	(510) 339-0400
2509 Rampart St	2BD/1BA Sun	2-430 \$358,000
Lincoln Heights The Grub Co.	Debbi DiMaggio	(510) 339-0400
540 Allen St	2BD/2BA	2-430 \$336,000
North Oakland, OPEN SUNDAY, Tom Nemeth	510-201-6557	
C21 Heritage Rls		
107274 62nd St	4bd/3ba Sun	2-430 \$348,000
RED OAK, Prudential-Montclair, 510-329-3930		
637 63rd St	2bd/1ba Sun	2-430 \$348,000
RED OAK, 510-280-2177, Merritt		
555 10th St #409	2BD/2BA	2-430 \$348,000
Wells & Bennett Realtors, Rock Hill Properties (510)537-7000/2		
6152 Mauritiania	2 - BDr/1 1/2	2-430 \$329,000
Milmont, OPEN SUNDAY, Colwell Banker	Dell Orr	(510) 339-0400

4228 Madison St	1 1/2 hr/10A Sun	2-4:30	\$145,000
*101 Term: Work/Park, 510-434-2500			
842 Creed Rd	1-1-15.5A	2-4:30	\$—
Loanne Warner, Marvin Gardens	510-327-2700	429	
PIEDMONT			
Address & Realty Size Hours Price			
303 Pacific Ave The Grubb Co	680/41/8A Sun	2-4:30	\$2,950,000 (510) 339-0440
Nancy Lehrnind			
505 Seenic Ave The Grubb Co	480/38A Sun	2-4:30	\$1,069,000 (510) 339-0440
Angela W. Lehrnind			
15 Ramona	1 - 3/8A Sun	2-4:30	\$859,000
Clayne Cunningham, Portland	510-428-9900		
22 Wildwood Ave The Grubb Co	480/21/8A Sun	2-4:30	\$589,000 (510) 339-0440
Mavis Delacort			
3945 Harrison St Pacific Union	280/28A Sun	2-4:30	\$139,000 (510) 339-1313
Robyn Muir			
152 Wildwood Ave	380/1.5BA	2-4:30	Upon Request
OPEN SUNDAY, Better Homes	Nahid Wasiri	(510) 339-9400	
PLEASANT HILL			
Address & Realty Size Hours Price			
1791 Millburn Dr RED OAK, 510-280-2123, Simone	46d/29A Sun	2-4:30	\$468,000
POINT RICHMOND			
Address & Realty Size Hours Price			
400 Western Dr Jeri Jones, Marvin Gardens	46d/30A Sun	1-4	\$1,095,000 510-559-2902
RICHMOND			
Address & Realty Size Hours Price			
2150 Sand Dollar Dr	36d/30A Sun	1-5	\$470,000
Open Sun, Gallagher & Lindsey, Michael Studebaker			
777-855-7279			
2560 Duke Ave	36d/2.5 Sun	2-4	\$325,500
Open Saturdays, Nancy Gardens	510-595-2921		
1919 San Benito St Richmond Annex Pacific Union	New Listing/Sun 2-4:30	\$329,000	
Kim Hahn	(510) 338-1371		
170 Malcolm RED OAK, 510-280-2144, Cincy	56d/2.5 Sun	2-4	\$279,900
5319 Carl Ave Darrell Roth, Marvin Gardens	26d/1.5 Sun	2-4	\$275,000 510-559-2905
757 36th St (N&E) RED OAK, 510-290-2142, Tom	26d/2Sun	Sun 2-4	\$244,500
SAN LEANDRO			
Address & Realty Size Hours Price			
279-281 Bristol Blvd Open Sun, 2 units Prudential, Nancy Bloom	180/1BA	DN	\$289,500 510-337-8570

A black and white photograph of a child sitting on the floor, surrounded by toys including a car, a dollhouse, and a television set.

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Friday 5pm Wednesday
* Cancellations same as deadlines
(fax 748-1665)
* Fax copy deadline 1 hour prior to publication deadline

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	AAA CREDIT NOT NEEDED Purchase/Refinance \$139,950-\$1,999,999 BULK/PACIFIC	NEW...F2EEMOOD 3bd over 1400sq ft. 12x16 \$139,950-1,999,999 CALL 921-0300	OPEN SUNDAY 12-6 P.M. SPB/DAK 3 car gar. 2500 sq. ft. 401. 4616 Silvercrest Way, 93401. No mortgage \$1,399,950-1,999,999 CALL 921-0300	LOVELY 3bd & 2bd, 2ba homes, quiet tree lined st. From \$300,000 Zero down pymt. Free 24 hr recorded message. Call 921-0300	\$349,950 2120 sq. ft. 3BD/2 BA, huge yd w/wood, side yd. access, stunning great room add-on, new baths, stainless steel kitchen	GOVERNMENT SALE 1791 Edgewood Dr 3BD/2BA \$6270 down \$1791 down	50 RAILROAD Ave/4500sq ft. 1377sq ft. free in front estate. \$275,000 Lord Real Estate. \$121 328-6129	LOVELY 3bd & 2bd 2ba homes, quiet tree lined st. From \$300,000 Zero down pymt. Free 24 hr recorded message. Call 921-0300

4BD/2BA pool
 55K Open Sun
 5) 264-0242

**City Outside
 Area**

3100 + sf
 y 4BD/3BA at
 Castle Oaks
 n. No HOA
 approved
 Call agt
 \$1 for info

acre w/4 lot
Diablo views

WASH FAST
HOUSES
32-0629

Offices & Stores for Rent	Offices & Stores for Rent	Share Rentals	Share Rentals	Share Rentals	Share Rentals	Share Rentals	Share Rentals	Rooms for Rent	Rooms for Rent	Rooms for Rent
CONCORD: Todos Santos Plaza, 2 room office suite Sunny. 9675 (925)858-3212	SAN RAMON shared space in open off. w/windows, 1000 sq. ft. Call 510 560 00 00 (925) 931-1100	ANTIOCH: new hrm., prt. ent. & Ba., share. 1000 sq. ft. Call 925-978-1272	DANVILLE: Newer home 4000/2500 nr. Bklynk. Cuel. 925-978-1272 \$750/mo. 7 1/2 Units (925) 736-7846	ORINDA: Lg. bdrm \$800 & \$700 Large yd. Nonsmoking. 925-978-1272	WALNUT CREEK: 4 nights max. Tired of commuting? No. GAST 183 3600 1/2. Incl. Carolyn 925-939-4760	WALNUT CREEK: 4 nights max. Tired of commuting? No. GAST 183 3600 1/2. Incl. Carolyn 925-939-4760	CONCORD: fr. pref. Rm. w/washb't. b't. k'th. & f'm. 1000 sq. ft. No smoking, no pets no drugs. 1st, last, dep. 925-978-1272	MARTINEZ: Nr. DVC. prt. ent. k/bth. \$600 mkt. vts. Farm. pref. (925) 372-7979	PLEASANT HILL: Response Avail. 401. Near DVC rent negot. (925) 686-4444	PLEASANT HILL: Walk-in

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N furn. rms. in
BART/shops.
\$50-\$650 (925)
(5) 215-1129

N lg. rm., pvt
e. \$600/mo +
925/461-2600

N nonsmking
Pool. \$700 mo
(5) 997-3650

N rm. female
+ util no pet

MOND: Furn.,
pref. Nonsmk
510) 232-8835

Clean house
all Jaime at
34-8153

share utils, kt.
kng or drugs
10) 234-4359

. Bd & pvt. ba
t, last & sec.
25/365-1309

Furn., bed/ba,
nilities & util,
925/829-8460

25) 828-2954
lg. rm. w/bath
home. \$700 -
-1112

\$625 mo. uti
dep., pvt ba
/875-9594

Room w/pvt.
& Indry. priv.
5) 833-2050

rooms avail. in
ba, incl. all priv.
56-9395

Week B & B - like
me on private

EEK: 2bds/1ba
ed. Pool/pool. Nr.
25/947-0757

EEK: BEAUT.
ed. Pool/BART
25/274-1208

EEK nice hse.
ean/quiet avail
2-0358

IT CREEK
g. Drug-free.
trustworthy.
ferm. pref. No
(925) 451-2884

EEK: \$675. rm

CREEK room
00 deposit.
510) 381-8422

ments Walnut
Ag
t. 2BD/2 M.
Carport, no
ets \$107.
10) 741 850
ments

Alameda

Bill
 ments
 \$1050 Gr
 125-322 439
 Bill 1bd/ha,
 cl, cab/units
 825/890-7570
 Senior Apts
 MODELED
 Pets ok
 7-8471

SPECIAL
5 on selected
dry \$1250/mo!
months rent
ap Inci gas,
garage 200
25/ 939-8895

LOCATION

FF RENT

175 Garber
Ave - 2 bdr
movies, rest
ok 212 Greg-

ent air heat
Wood burning
76-8964

Black

nents

WD hook
(25) 846-6780

LUE: 1BD nr
non smoking
6-939-1059

Brent

060 Dwtwtw
free No pets
08919060
00 Avail
Calomino Dr 4
925/376-3375
200 + der
(5) 846-8380
ments
Concave

frg stove
\$950/mo last
0) 787-2500

BD, \$725mo
633 3rd St
0-727-0575

w cpt, lno
Pring Que
35-1979

stairs, wgar
ed \$1200/mo
510/367-6521

many avail
dep (510)
724 0501

24-0524
2bd/1ba, pvt
ar indy.
Sec OK
\$1000 Dep
19 Nevn Ave
45-4293
h St Garage
Storage rm.
1290 + dep
262-0351
\$990 + dep
twn Nevn &
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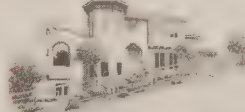
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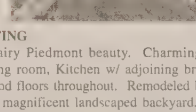


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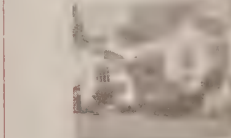
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SPORTS

• Friday, March 22, 2002 •

Section C

Inside McGreehan: Reliving Olympic memories [C2]

Inside Magic of Spielberg's 'E.T.' still there [C3]

Distance running: it's a personal thing

Annual Distance Fest draws biggest crowds in Bay Area

By Scott Strain and Bill Krussink
STAFF WRITERS

PIEDMONT — It was "Crusin' With Clara" on a cold Friday Night at Witter Field. Horowitz, the Duke-bound senior, decided to make a statement in the fast heat of the girls 3,200-meter event at the Fourth Annual Bay Area Distance Festival held at Piedmont High.

G.R., did she ever. Blazing into the lead in the first meters of the race Horowitz, a Berkeley resident, cold-footed it a time of 10 minutes, 42.8 seconds, shattering the previous record of 11:35.2, set by Laura Hernandez of Granada last year. That's a 52.4-second difference.

She also tore away from St. Mary's Bridget Duffy, defeating her for the second consecutive year in a Distance Fest race. Duffy, also a senior, finished second in 11:01.0.

Duffy had completely

trumped Horowitz two years ago, the 1,600 when they were sophomores. Duffy was already a season track runner for Horowitz, a top cross-country runner, was a relative

comrade on the track.

"The plan was to go out hard

and I would get a lot of benefit

from the race itself," Horowitz

said. "This is the way I wanted



ME AND MY SHADOWS. Runners in the final girls heat of the 1,600 create images in the afternoon sun on the Witter Field track at Piedmont High. The Fourth Annual Bay Area Distance Festival drew more than 900 athletes from 48 schools last Friday.

to start my season and except for the cold, I couldn't be happier. "I was a little nervous coming in, but I just felt great. "I was cruising," she said. "It

was just so much fun. I practice here (at Witter) and I just feel very comfortable. "I didn't run spectacular, I ran solid," Duffy said. "I ran my sec-

ond-best time ever for the two-mile. I was pacing myself and making sure I got the right splits, I wasn't focusing on any other girl in the race."

The cold night didn't stop runners from setting five meet records. Shannon Rowbury, pushing "I really love this track" — she won last year, beating both

Horowitz and Duffy — took the fast 1,600 in 4:56.2. She will be a teammate of Horowitz's at Duke.

Yfa Kretschmar of University-San Francisco, won the girls fast heat in a time of 2:13.5, breaking her own record of 2:17.1 which she set as a junior last season. She also owns the sophomore mark of 2:20.

Drake won the boys 1,600 fast heat in 4:16.6, beating Gillat Ghebray of James Logan, who ran 4:18.6. It was the same time the Colt senior had run last year, when he finished second to Tom Phelps of Piedmont.

Drake's time was also a meet record, besting Phelps' mark of 4:17.9, which was set last year.

The only record not broken was in the last individual race of the night, the boys 3,200. Eric Roberts of Alhambra won in 9:28.7. Carl Dambkowski of Granada set the mark in 2001, running 9:20.6.

Of course, claiming a meet record was just one reason to head to Piedmont.

For one thing, Witter Field is a beautiful place to run. The track is state-of-art and the scenery sparkling — The City at dusk and all that.

Said Albany's Zoe Griffith: "It's a really, really nice track — especially with the dirt we have to run on. We run at Cougar Field and they just spent a lot (of money) to redo the track. It rained and pretty much negated the effort."

See FEST, Page C2

Panthers save best for last

St. Pat's homer ties it, McGeehan's single wins it in bottom of the 9th. Cougars Worth St. Pat's

By Curtis Elliott

CORRESPONDENT

When a game features 21 hits and 11 errors, it's probable that the team that bats last will win. That's the way it went Friday, anyway, as the St. Joseph's Panthers outlasted the St. Patrick's Cougars 10-9 in their Bay Shore League opener at St. Patrick's.

When Chad Freitas took the mound in the bottom of the seventh inning, the Panthers were down 10-9. Freitas, who started the game at third base, relieved in the bottom of the seventh.

Freitas, who started the game at third base, relieved in the bottom of the seventh. He promptly picked a runner and pitched two innings of hitless relief. After getting the first out in the seventh, he was two shy of the win.

Unfortunately for the Panthers, Chris Alford was the pitcher. A good luck charm for St. Mary's, he'd single and tripled and twice scored on infield errors. Needed more than a walk to get going started, Alford coaxed the Cougars to 3-1. But when the 3-

1 offering came in, he ripped the ball over the right-center field fence. The only home run of the day, the blast had tied the game at 10.

"My freshman year I hit one over the bleachers," Alford said. "I'm lucky to get three hits in a game. I don't get three hits that often."

Then the roof caved in on St. Joe. Joe Storno, the game's starting pitcher, singled, and Chase Moore followed with a single to put runners on first and second. Peter McGuinness, who hails from Alameda, and who knows Freitas from Little League, then blasted the ball into the gap to score Storno with the winning run.

The rally-hat had been on the other head in the top of the last. St. Joe had rallied from a three-run deficit, chasing starter Storno in the process. St. Mary's was in a spot.

"We're just short on pitching right now," St. Mary's coach Andy Shimabukuro said. "Our top two guys are hurt. The guy we started is basically the only guy we've got. The guy who came in from shortstop was not even a pitcher until last week." Shortstop Manny Mejia took

over for Storno and induced the first man he faced to pop out. But a walk, a single, a grounder and an error soon had St. Joe up 10-9.

Playing in a strong, chilly wind, the game clocked in at 2 1/2 hours. And it was a contest riddled with mistakes, as the Panthers made five errors, the Panthers six. However, the length of the contest wasn't entirely due to errors. There was a lot of hitting to go around too. The Panthers may have won because they out-hit the Pilots, 16-12.

St. Mary's opened the game with two runs, but this was not a contest where leads held for long. St. Joseph batted around twice, the Panthers once during the contest.

St. Joe's first bat-around came in a strange second inning where four runs scored on the strength of just two hits. Tony Duncan got one of the hits, a single to load the bases with no outs — just as he would in the seventh inning. A couple errors and a sacrifice fly gave the Pilots a 3-2 edge, then a wild pitch made it 4-2.

St. Mary's became big benefactors in the third, scoring three runs on only one hit. Two infield errors and two walks brought in two runs and Mejia singled home a run to give the Panthers a 5-4 advantage.

The Panthers appeared to break the game open in the fourth as they batted around. Mo-

rocco led off with a single, then Alford tripled home Morocco and scored when the ball was overthrown. Storno and Moore followed with singles. After a couple of outs, John Ayers and Mejia both singled, as two more runs crossed the plate. Four runs scored in the inning to make it 9-4.

But in the fifth, St. Mary's succumbed to the heart of St. Joe's batting order.

A Pilot single and double were followed by a run-scoring single by Freitas. A fielder's choice cut the gap to three, 9-6. Which set the stage for the top of the seventh.

"They hit the ball a little bit better than we did," St. Joe coach Freitas said. "We came back a couple times. Got ahead there once. We didn't play the ball very good in this outfield. We just had a hard time. Some of those that fell in were killers at the end."

"I knew it would be a fight in the last inning," Shimabukuro said. "St. Joe never quits. They've got a young group that's been over there since they were freshmen. They're juniors now and they're scrappy. I knew our pitcher was getting tired. I was trying to get him (Storno) through a complete game. I knew we were kind of thin in the bullpen."

See LAST, Page C2

BASEBALL				PREP SOFTBALL			
BSAL	W	L	GB	BSAL	W	L	GB
Albany	2	0	—	Holy Names	1	0	—
St. Mary's	1	0	½	John Swett	1	0	—
Salesian	1	0	½	St. Joseph	1	0	—
St. Joseph	1	1	1	St. Patrick	1	0	—
Piedmont	0	0	1	St. Elizabeth	0	0	½
John Swett	0	1	1½	Salesian	0	0	½
Kennedy	0	1	1½	Albany	0	1	1
St. Elizabeth	0	1	1½	Kennedy	0	1	1
St. Patrick	0	1	1½	Piedmont	0	1	1
Wednesday's results				3/20 results			
Albany 4, St. Patrick 1				Salesian 18, Kennedy 0			
Salesian 8, Kennedy 3				Holy Names 12, St. Mary's 0			
St. Joseph 13, St. Elizabeth 4				St. Joseph at St. Elizabeth			
PREP BOYS GOLF				PREP BOYS VOLLEYBALL			
BSAL	W	L	GB	BSAL	W	L	GB
St. Patrick	3	0	—	Kennedy	3	1	—
Piedmont	2	1	1	St. Joseph	3	1	—
St. Joseph	1	1	1	Salesian	3	1	—
St. Mary's	1	1	1	St. Mary's	2	2	1
Salesian	1	2	1	St. Elizabeth	1	3	2
John Swett	0	3	3	Piedmont	0	4	3
Tuesday's results				Tuesday's results			
Piedmont 148, Salesian 193				Kennedy at Piedmont 15-10, 7-15, 15-13, 15-9			
St. Joseph 163, John Swett 245				Salesian at St. Elizabeth 15-8, 15-3, 15-9			
St. Patrick 156, St. Mary's 164				St. Joseph at St. Mary's 15-9, 11-15, 8-15, 16-14, 15-13			

Cougars fall to SP

STAFF REPORT

The St. Patrick/St. Vincent Bruins came out swinging against the Albany Cougars softball team, but in losing 5-3, the Cougars did some swinging themselves.

Playing at Cougar Field on Wednesday, the Bruins jumped out to an 8-0 lead in the third.

But in the bottom of the inning, Cougar Elizabeth Ali (2-for-3) ripped a three-run homer to close the gap.

Katie Lommen doubled and third baseman Danielle Moore made a diving catch to prevent a runner from scoring. Albany slipped to 1-6, 0-2 in the BSAL.

Baseball

Baseball championships at the ARCO Arena in the last of the 2001-2002 basketball season on Friday and Saturday. Five divisions and girls title games will be played from noon until night on both days.

Games in the order they will be played:

March 22:

Boys — St. Bernard-Playa del Rey vs. Martin Catholic (28-5), 2 p.m.;

Girls — Horizon-San Diego (27-4) vs. Horizon-San Jose (21-11), 4 p.m.

Boys — Redondo (26-7) vs. San Jose (23-3), 6 p.m.; D-I

Boys — Martin Luther King-Riverside

(30-4) vs. St. Francis-Mountain View (25-8), 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 23:

D-V girls — La Jolla Country Day (24-5) vs. Modesto Christian (33-3) 9:30 a.m.;

D-V boys — Price-Los Angeles (30-6) vs. University-San Francisco (30-4),

11:15 a.m.; D-III girls — Bishop Montgomery-Torrance (29-5) vs. Miramonte (29-3), 1 p.m.; D-III boys — Centennial-

Compton (31-1) vs. Rialdon-San Francisco (30-4), 2:45 p.m.; D-I girls — Lyn-

wood (31-0) vs. Kennedy-Sacramento (31-4), 6 p.m.; D-I boys — Westchester-

Los Angeles (31-2) vs. Oakland Tech (23-7), 8 p.m.

Baseball

Salesian vs. Albany at Cougar Field, Tuesday, March 26, 3:30 p.m.; Albany

at Kennedy, Thursday, March 28, 3:30 p.m.

St. Elizabeth at St. Mary's, today at 3:30, Piedmont at St. Mary's, Tuesday, March 26, 3:30 p.m.

Softball

Albany at Salesian, Tuesday, March 26, 3:30 p.m.; Albany at Kennedy, Thursday, March 28, 3:30 p.m.

St. Mary's at St. Elizabeth, today at 3:30 p.m.; St. Mary's at Piedmont, Tuesday, March 26, 3:30 p.m.; Head-

Royce vs. St. Mary's at Central Park, El Cerrito, Wednesday, March 27, 3:30 p.m.

Boys golf

St. Mary's at Salesian, Tuesday, March 26, 3:30 p.m.

Boys tennis

St. Mary's at John Swett, Tuesday, March 26, 3:30 p.m.; St. Mary's at St. Joseph Notre Dame, Thursday, March 28, 3:30 p.m.

Boys volleyball

St. Mary's at Piedmont, Monday, March 25, varsity match follows the 4 p.m. junior varsity match; Kennedy at St. Mary's, Wednesday, March 27, varsity match follows the 4 p.m. junior varsity match.

Track and field

St. Mary's at St. Francis Invitational, St. Francis High School-Mountain View, Saturday, 9 a.m.

Stars of the Week

"I didn't run spectacular, I ran solid. I ran my second-best time ever for the

Lou Woth, Albany baseball — A right-hander, Woth went the distance in defeating St. Patrick 4-1 on Wednesday. He yielded just one earned run, struck out four.

Elizabeth Ali, Albany softball — A catcher, Ali slammed a three-run homer in the Cougars losing effort to St. Patrick. She went 2-for-3 and scored in the game.

Stevan Altemus, St. Mary's volleyball — He had seven kills and blocked three shots against St. Joseph on Tuesday. Panther setter Andy Accacian racked up 23 assists as St. Mary's took

defending-league champ St. Joe to five games before falling.

Quotes of the Week

"I didn't run spectacular, I ran solid. I ran my second-best time ever for the

two-mile. I was pacing myself and making sure I got the right splits. I wasn't cursing on any other girl in the race."

St. Mary's distance runner Bridget Duffy after coming in second to Head-Royce's Clara Horowitz in the 3,200 meters at the fourth annual Distance Festival, held March 15 at Piedmont High School. Duffy's time of 11:01 shattered the meet record by more than 30 seconds. But Horowitz was something else, coming in at 10:42.8.

"My freshman year I hit one over the bleachers," Alford said. "I'm lucky to get three hits in a game. I don't get three hits that often."

St. Mary's hitter Steve Alford after slugging a game-tying solo homer against St. Joseph Notre Dame on March 15. Alford went 3-for-4 in the win.

Ready for some Olympic moments?

MEMORIES OF A most special sporting experience:

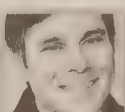
"¡Chi-Chi-Chi, le-le-le! ¡Viva Chile!" scream the flag-waving Chilean fans just a couple rows behind my father, sister and me. "Rubbish!" grouses the Englishman seated in front us, as he reacts to every missed pass. Add to these scenes an enthusiastic group of Italian sailors, the always-colorful Brazilians and a throng of locals cheering, "USA, USA," in a 3-0 win against Costa Rica and you have just some of the flavor that was Olympic soccer at Stanford Stadium in 1984.

Yes, the soccer matches held down on The Farm that year were a special experience, a part of the Los Angeles Olympics — well, farmed out — to Northern California.

Olympiads — whether one attends soccer, cycling, basketball, field hockey or that long-time staple, track and field — always have an aura all their own. This year's Winter Games have come and gone. The world now awaits the Summer Olympics of Athens in 2004.

There are many folks, though, who are thinking of the years beyond.

Imagine, if you will, some of the world's greatest athletes coming to the Bay Area in the summer of 2012. Well, it could happen if the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee has its



MIKE MCGREEHAN
Between the Lines

way. Currently, San Francisco is one of four U.S. cities vying to host the Summer Games 10 years from now. And though San Francisco will be the official host city, the East Bay will be very much a part of the Olympic picture.

"Our plan is to use the Network Associates Coliseum for soccer and the Arena for basketball," says Tony Winnicker, BASOC communications director. "The East Bay is key to our bid because of BART. All of our venues are planned to be on public transportation lines."

In addition to the Coliseum Complex, Winnicker mentioned Henry J. Kaiser Arena as a proposed site for weightlifting events. Moving north, additional soccer matches would take place at Cal's Memorial Stadium with team handball the featured event at Haas Pavilion.

Oh — and Winnicker mentioned Jack London Square as a 'celebration site,' a place where people could gather to simply be in the Olympic spirit.

Olympic visions aren't new to the Bay Area. Perhaps spurred

by the enthusiasm at Stanford in 1984, some Bay Area folks proposed a bid for the '96 Games back in 1987. Controversy in the gay community arose, though, because of the U.S. Olympic Committee's ban on the use of the term "Gay Olympics" for a competition involving gay and lesbian athletes. The already-lukewarm support for that bid dropped, as the 1996 Games eventually became Atlanta's.

That was then. This is now. "At the time, the USOC decided to enforce the Olympics trademark," Winnicker said. "There's been changes in the USOC (since 1987) and there's gay and lesbian Olympians on (the BASOC) board. I think this has been a much, much wider

effort. We've engaged all the (Bay Area) mayors."

Most prominent has been the backing of the mayors Brown — Willie in San Francisco and Jerry of Oakland.

"We couldn't have a more vocal advocate than the current (S.F.) mayor, Willie Brown," Winnicker said. "And in the East Bay, we've had tremendous support from Jerry Brown and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors."

Foremost in the minds of Bay Area residents is the cost of staging the Olympics. Though Los Angeles 1984 remains a model for all future Olympics by covering its costs many times over, the financial bath suffered by Montreal in

the wake of the 1976 Games still is firmly etched in the memories of many adults.

Look for San Francisco 2012 to follow the pattern of Los Angeles 1984, Winnicker contends. "We're a privately-funded Olympic Games," Winnicker says. "We're not asking for public funds."

"In addition, we have a lot of existing facilities — 80 percent of we need to host the Olympics actually exists today."

As was the case with the Los Angeles Games 18 years ago, proceeds from the Olympics will fund youth sports in and around the host city.

On March 1, Oakland and the East Bay threw additional support behind the 2012 bid in a fund-raiser breakfast at the Oakland Marriott City Center. Of course, much more work has to be done to make this dream a reality.

Originally San Francisco was one of the top three cities for the U.S. bid. In October, the U.S. Olympic Committee selected Los Angeles, Chicago and Dallas from among the 10 cities that were still in the running.

Still in the running were New York and Baltimore. D.C. USOC officials said the Bay Area was not among the cities naming the U.S. bid.

On November 2, the International Olympic Committee picked the host city for the 2004 worldwide games.

"There's a lot of work to be done to make us the city that says confidently."

For now, many Bay Area residents will have to wait for the soccer matches to be held in the Bay Area.



ALL BY HERSELF: Clara Horowitz, a Berkeley resident, easily won the girls' 3,200-meter race at Piedmont High's Distance Fest on March 15.



ST. MARY'S RUNNER SCOTT HOWARD sent a personal best to win the fourth heat of the boys' 1,600-meter race at Piedmont High's Distance Festival on March 15.

BRIEFS

Soccer tryouts

The Alameda-Contra Costa Youth Soccer League Mavericks will hold tryouts for the fall season in March and April. Tryouts will be for Class I and III girls and Class I boys. Players are advised to arrive 30 minutes in advance for check-in. Expect each tryout to last two hours.

Girls tryouts

(all times subject to change)
■ Under-15 — April 14, Anderson 2, 2 p.m.; April 21, Anderson

1, 1 p.m.; April 28, Gabe West, 3 p.m.

■ Under-16 — April 14, Anderson 1, 2 p.m.; April 21, Fielding West, noon; April 28, Anderson 2, 3 p.m.

■ Under-17 — April 14, Anderson 1, 4 p.m.; April 21, Fielding West, 2 p.m.; April 28, Fielding West, 2 p.m.

■ Under-18/19 — April 14, Anderson 2, 4 p.m.; April 21, Gabe West 1 p.m.; April 28, Fielding West, 10 a.m.

Last

FROM PAGE C1

Postgame

STATS: Alfert had three hits, two runs batted in and four runs scored. Sorno and Moore each had three hits also. Chris Morocco, Sorno and Tom Carman scored two runs a piece. Mejia had a perfect day at the plate with two hits, two walks and two RBI.

ON DECK: St. Mary's hosts St. Elizabeth today at 3:30 p.m. On March 26, the Piedmont Highlanders visit St. Mary's, playing at 3:30 p.m.

Albany 4, St. Patrick 1

Lou Worth fired a four-hitter and Matt Ball went 2-for-3 with an RBI as the Cougars (7-2, 2-0) remained in first place in the BSAL with a victory over the Bruins (0-1 BSAL).

St. Mary's 8, El Cerrito 6

The Panthers (4-5) broke open a close game with seven runs in the sixth inning for an 8-0 lead, then had to hold off a hard-charging Gauchos (5-2) squad, which scored six runs in the seventh inning of the nonleague game. Chris Morocco hit a two-run home run in the sixth inning for St. Mary's, while Greg Murray keyed El Cerrito's seventh-inning surge with a grand slam.

Fest

FROM PAGE C1

Some look beyond the view, preferring to deal with the hard facts of running and to push themselves in one of the first big meets of the year. It's a chance to shake off a winter's worth of rust, to see where their times are, to see what they have to work on.

Griffith, a senior who won the fifth heat of the girls' 1,600 (there were 11 heats), was out there primarily to get her bearings. A soccer player by trade, she thought she'd run the 3,200, but slipped into the 1,600 when a teammate dropped out.

Her goals, then, were simple. "I ran yesterday and ran 5:44."

So today I was going for yesterday's record," she said. "I don't think I got it, but I didn't know what to expect from this meet because I've never run on this track before."

Her time was 5:51.2. St. Mary's Scott Howard was also a winner of sorts. He took the fourth of 14 heats in the boys' 1,600 and his time of 5:02.6 was a personal best in the event.

"I think I did a good job; I

pushed myself the whole way," he said. "I missed five minutes by two seconds, but I have the rest of the season to work on that."

Turns out, every runner who placed first or second in their heat was a winner since they received a free meet T-shirt ("I love getting T-shirts," said St. Mary's runner Gabi Rios-Sotelo, who took the 10th heat in the girls' 1,600).

The meet is big — more than 900 athletes from 48 schools checked in. This year it was run in cool, often windy conditions. The runners, however, didn't appear to notice the weather.

"Not really," Howard said. "You can't really focus on that stuff."

Local results from the meet include:

Girls 1,600 meters

(Winning time: Shannon Rowbury, Sacred Heart Cathedral-SF, 4:56.2; meet record)

ALBANY — Zoe Griffith 5:51.2; Fiona Gladstone 6:38.9. BERKELEY — Modupe Olaye 6:45.4; Katherine Ellis 6:46.1; Katie Osborn 6:58.8.

ST. MARY'S — Emily Olson 6:03.8; Lauren Gates 7:14.1.

Girls 800 meters

(Winning time: Yfa Kretzschmar, University-SF, 2:13.5; meet record)

EL CERRITO — Laticia Vaca, 3:09.7; Monique Lee 3:11.3.

ST. MARY'S — Willa Porter 2:22.8; Danille Riccardi 2:58.7; Christina Taylor 3:02.9.

Girls 3,200 meters

(Winning time: Clara Horowitz, Head-Royce, 10:42.8; meet record)

ST. MARY'S — Bridget Duffy, 11:01.1; Megan Harrington 14:03.7.

Boys 1,600 meters

(Winning time: Sean Drake, University-SF, 4:16.6; MEET RECORD)

ALBANY — Phillip Lee 5:36.1; Allen Seol 5:37.2; Halley Lebron-Tang 5:39.7.

BERKELEY — Bradley Johnson 4:59.0; Scott Monasch 5:02.4; Jonathon Finney 5:03.0; Richard Farrell 5:30.0; Ricardo Hernandez 5:31.7; Eguene Wu 5:35.8.

EL CERRITO — Andrew

Tamura 5:55.1; Eric Porter

time.

ST. MARY'S — Scott

5:02.6; Jake Texera 5:02.6

Boys 800 meters

(Winning time: Tim

Bishop O'Dowd, 1:50.1

RECORD)

ALBANY — Justin

2:02.2; Sean Carey 2:02.2

Shea 2:19.8.

BERKELEY — Sp

2:06.4; Sarned Arnes

Bradley Johnson

Machomsomoon 2:20.2

Wu 2:28.0.

EL CERRITO —

Tamura 2:30.2; Eric

2:39.6.

Boys 3,200 meters

(Winning time: Tim

Alhambra, 9:28.7

ALBANY — Jerry

10:57.6; Jeffrey Hinch

Santos Rivera 11:17.2

pher Wild, 11:59.5.

BERKELEY — And

9:55.8; Nic Riley

ST. MARY'S — R

10:01.8; Jake Texera

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Arts

BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

Oscar voting this season is a real drudge

FOR MANY IN THE media who are online a lot and get much of their break-news off the Net, the Drudge Report (www.drudgereport.com) is often the first place they check. (Yes, even before Yahoo! news.) Drudge has become the most common page in some radio and TV newsrooms. True, Matt Drudge is opinionated and yes, he's on the net (where rumor and fiction abound), but by and large, Drudge is usually THE place to find out what's going on at any given hour—his site provides the best access to details of the stories. Check out Drudge for a week or so; you may well become addicted and bookmark the site prominently.

For breaking news in the West or Afghanistan, Drudge is the best place I've found to get instant links to the news and to the British press; military matters, it has links to authoritative Jane's Defence Weekly site. I'm not going to say about all the Drudge stuff is to the Moonie-owned, conservative Washington Post, but they are occasionally useful.

The Drudge site has been in the news the past two years after its last-minute revelations that the biography of schizophrenic Nobel Laureate Robert Bly, subject of the film nominee "A Beautiful Mind," includes "proof" that Bly was a "Jew-basher."

His set off turmoil in Hollywood, where the Oscar voting included this past Tuesday where there's an unusually large number of Best Picture nominees this year for Best Picture (it's been a lean year for Best Picture films). The Drudge exerts from Sylvia Nasar's "A Beautiful Mind" book seemed indicate that both the writer producer of "Mind" purporting to be a Jew-basher, said Nasar's supposed Semitism because, said Nasar, "they were Zionist that the chances of winning an Oscar would be increased if the film's protagonist was a basher of a religion and disproportionately represented in the Academy voting

is a highly charged issue, where. Alarm bells went off, "Mind" producer DreamWorks quickly arranged for "60 Minutes" Mike Wallace to interview Nasar for last Sunday's "60 Minutes." Nasar said he was delusional, not bigoted. (Nasar also says in her book that Nasar thought he was the Emperor of Antarctica when uninvited). Continuing the megalomania control following Nasar's revelations about the Akiva Goldsman, the screenwriter, said he was abused Nasar was indeed not bigoted.

When the Jerusalem Post got the act (I got this link from the act), quoting Goldsman's proud of my Jewish heritage as explaining that holding paranoid schizophrenic responsible for these "is like blaming a man for losing weight." And it got uglier, with Harlan Stein, who runs Miramax whose "Lord of the Rings" is in a tight race for Best Picture, "being used by some in Hollywood to do tricks and of planting Drudge story. Drudge may be the real winner here being this post: He got tons of press out of it all.

The ugliest chapter could be Sunday night. Or the dirtiest. The inexplicably famous Whoopi Goldberg, who hosted the ABC Oscars, could again inflict her vulgarity on her tiresome, second-rate Bailey impression on the viewers. Goldberg, who was as "talented" as Adam Carolla could turn Sunday's Oscars into a show called "A Mouth."

When you think of it, given all that preceded this Oscars, maybe Goldberg might call after all.

See MANN, Page C5



"WEST OAKLAND," 1928, by Bernard Von Eichman

Oakland: Lost and found

Exhibit captures images of the city, past and present

By Robert Taylor
TIMES CORRESPONDENT

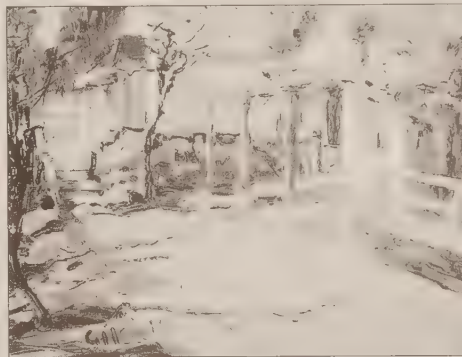
AT FIRST IT SEEMS like a lost world: a Victorian-era farmhouse with a windmill and water tower, surrounded by a picket fence. Cows, chickens and ducks, virtually posing for the viewer in a grassy field. Two rows of wooden storefronts that look as if they're on the edge of the Western frontier. A bustling waterfront thick with the masts of sailing ships.

Then, as you view more of this exhibition, landmarks become more clear. A sunset that glows through a blanket of fog turns out to be a view from the Oakland hills with Mount Tamalpais in the background. If a painting depicts a day at a lake, it's usually Lake Merritt. And a painting titled "The Trojan Horses" shows the instantly recognizable giant cranes at the Port of Oakland.

"Scene in Oakland, 1852-2002," the new exhibit at the Oakland Museum celebrating the city's 150th anniversary, offers many scenes that have disappeared. But with the 66 paintings, drawings, watercolors and photographs keyed to a map of the city, the show could just as well be titled "Oakland: Lost and Found."

In addition to the map, superb captions throughout the exhibition place the artwork in a historic, geographic and social setting.

That Victorian-era farmhouse, painted by Joseph Lee circa 1871, was Capt. Thomas W. Badger's



"JOAQUIN MILLER'S HOME," 1915, by Selden Connor Gile



"3RD AND ALICE," 1949, by George Post

EXHIBIT PREVIEW

- **WHAT:** "Scene in Oakland, 1852-2002: Artworks Celebrating the City's 150th Anniversary"
- **WHERE:** Oakland Museum of California, 10th and Oak streets, Oakland, one block from Lake Merritt BART station
- **WHEN:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, open to 9 p.m. first Friday of the month, through Aug. 25
- **HOW MUCH:** \$6 general, \$4 seniors and students, free for children 5 and under. Free admission second Sunday of the month.
- **CONTACT:** 510-238-2200, www.museumca.org

residence at what would later be Ninth Street and Eighth Avenue east of Lake Merritt. (Gertrude Stein and Isadora Duncan, when they were children, lived on nearby "farms" a decade later. It was this lost landscape that Stein recalled in the 1930s when she returned and noted that "there is no there there.")

Albert Bierstadt, best known for monumental views of Yosemite, painted the view of the Oakland shore and foggy Bay circa 1872. The busy waterfront scene, by John C. White, depicts the Oakland Long Wharf that extended two miles into the deeper waters of the Bay in the 1870s. That raw little "Western" street is the earliest work in the

See OAKLAND, Page C5

Magic of Spielberg's 'E.T.' is still there

By Vera H-C Chan
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Twenty years is far too long an absence between friends.

Much of the ink on the 20th anniversary re-release of "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial" has been on its legacy. It gave director Steven Spielberg the courage to pursue later projects such as "The Color Purple," "Schindler's List" and "Saving Private Ryan." Its role reversal of the kind, frightened alien and looming, hostile Earthlings reflected how America's concerns turned from the Cold War to our domestic state.

What the theatrical revival has done is to underscore what has gone missing: the patient, sweet devotion to storytelling. More than anything, the tender intelligence and sweet humor of "E.T." remind us how much cinematic shorthand has truncated emotion in the mad rush toward special effects.

Even the first credits (in '80s lavender) set up the rules of suspense: Introductions first, but not

REVIEW

- **WHAT:** "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial"
- **STARRING:** Henry Thomas, Robert MacNaughton, Drew Barrymore
- **RATING:** PG (language and mild thematic elements)
- **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours
- **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
- **GRADE:** A

one snippet will be given away. As the film begins to unfold under a night sky, the faint, hollow notes of John Williams' score instills a commingling sense of fear and dread, yet with a haunting beauty.

When vague, otherworldly outlines gradually appear, these figures inspire uncertainty, not terror. From the beginning, we see our world through their eyes, as their extra-long, quivering brown fingers gently uproot saplings in a forest. Especially



THE AIRBORNE BICYCLE RIDE in "E.T." has become a part of American culture.

for one visitor, every sight inspires a palpable sense of awe as he wanders among the tall slender redwoods or sits on a slope, sighing contentedly, to see the glowing township below him.

Fear comes in the form of humans, unseen figures whose pickups suddenly tear into the

serenity. Too far from the ship (which resembles an enormous silver Christmas ornament), a fearful E.T. is left behind, and he begins to make his way down to the anonymous grid of California suburbia.

Where he ends up is the home

See ET, Page C5

EVENTS

General

OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY — PIEDMONT BRANCH — "Flashes of Genius: Short Works by Literary Masters." A discussion group for short stories. March 26, 6:30 p.m.: "A Good Man is Hard to Find" by Flannery O'Connor. 160 41st St. (510) 597-5011.

WEST OAKLAND BRANCH — "Chess Workshop for Children." Wednesdays, 4 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. 1801 Adeline St. (510) 597-5049. Free. Oakland. (510) 238-3134 or www.oaklandlibrary.org

CODY'S BOOKSTORES — TELEGRAPH AVENUE — Julia Butterfly Hill, March 30. The environmental activist talks about "One Makes a Difference: Inspiring Actions to Change Our World." All events are at 7:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise. 2454 Telegraph Ave. (510) 845-7852.

SPECIAL EVENT — Ahmed Rashid, March 26, 7:30 p.m. Rashid, a Pakistani journalist and author of "Taliban: Militant Islam, Oil and Fundamentalism in Central Asia" and "Jihad: The Rise of Militant Islam in Central Asia," talks about "Looking Forward: Afghanistan, Central Asia and Global Stability." In collaboration with International and Area Studies and the Institute for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies at University of California. At Sibley Auditorium, Bechtel Engineering Center, University of California, Berkeley. Free unless noted otherwise. Berkeley.

THE STARRY PLOUGH — "The Berkeley Poetry Slam," Wednesday, 8:30 p.m. Poets should arrive at 7:30 p.m. to sign up. The first Wednesday of the month is "Chicken Grease!" hosted by Nazel Jamison and Karen Ladson with spinning by DJ Funklor. All other Wednesdays are "The Berkeley Slam!" hosted by Charles Elik and dani eurythm with music by Three Blind Mice. For ages 21 and over after 10 p.m. \$5. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 435-1665.

MARCUS BOOKSTORES — Michael Datcher, March 22, 6:30 p.m. The author presents a narrative that charts the dangerous social and racial minefield Black American men cross every day in "Raising Fences: A Black Man's Love Story." Free. 3900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland. (510) 652-2344.

GOLDEN GATE GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY TRAVEL FILM SERIES — through March 23. "China and The Gorges." A film about the Three Gorges on the Yangtze River and the Three Lesser Gorges, all of which are about to be submerged in a lake created by a huge dam. Other features include Shanghai, Nanjing, the seaport of Qingdao, Xi-An and the buried army, Beijing, the Great Wall, Wuhan, Yichang and Wuxian, another future dam victim. Produced and presented in person by Raphael and Jocelyn Green. March 23, 2 p.m.: Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. \$9 general; \$4.50 youths age 14 and under. (800) 247-GGGS.

CALIFORNIA SHAKE-SPARE FESTIVAL ANNUAL GALA — March 23, 6 p.m. The event includes a champagne reception, dinner, live and silent auctions, dancing and more. Proceeds benefit the Annual Fund and the Theater's Artistic Learning Initiative. \$175 to \$250. Rotunda Building, 300 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland. (510) 548-3422 ext. 125.

PARAMOUNT THEATRE — "Academy Gala," March 24, 3:30 p.m. Arrive to gala red carpet treatment. Once inside the Grand Foyer "See-and-be-Scene" while dining on a sumptuous buffet of film-themed dishes by East Bay restaurants and caterers. Shortly before 5 p.m., take your seat in the theater and enjoy a concert by the Paramount's mighty Wurlitzer. Then it is Awards time. Watch the 74th Annual Academy Awards on the theater's historic big screen. Attend the "Rodeo Drive Boutique" a chic silent auction. Black tie or "Hollywood festive" attire preferred. A benefit for the Cystic

See EVENTS, Page C5

NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Vera H-C Chan and Mary F. Pols. Times; Robert W. Butler, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Anthony Breznican, Christy Lemire, Tim Molloy, Sheila Norman-Culp and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; Stephen Holden, Dave Kehr, Elvis Mitchell, A.O. Scott and Lawrence Van Gelder, New York Times; Valerie Kulkenski, Bob Strauss and Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Kevin Thomas, Los Angeles Times; Gary Dowell, Tom Mastrand, Chris Vognar and Philip Wuntch, Dallas Morning News; and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel.

"ALL ABOUT THE BENJAMINS": An occasional burst of visual inventiveness livens up this standard-issue crime-comedy. Ice Cube plays Bucum Jackson, a Miami bounty hunter in pursuit of Reggie Write (Mike Eggs), a serial ball-jumper. When Reggie takes a wrong turn into a storage complex where a bloody jewel heist has just gone down, the murderous crooks shoot their way past Bucum, unaware that Reggie is hiding in their getaway van. Reggie and Bucum both escape, but the bad guys now have Reggie's wallet along with his \$60 million lottery ticket. When Bucum finally tracks Reggie down, the longtime antagonists join forces to get the ticket

back. —B. Strauss. (R: violence, sex, language) 1 hour, 37 minutes. **C+**

"AMELIE": A feel-good movie in the best possible sense, a comic take from French director Jean-Pierre Jeunet that vibrates with joy and fast-dances with life. Amelie (the relentlessly charming Audrey Tautou) is a lonely young lady who keeps a watchful eye on the rest of the world. One day she sets out to reunite a child's treasure with its long-grown owner and discovers she likes playing emotional Robin Hood. Setting out on a path to help her neighbors and the denizens of the cafe where she works, she inadvertently trips into a love affair with a guy (Mathieu Kassovitz) who might be as sweetly eccentric as she is. Every time you think the movie is getting too sticky-sweet, Jeunet throws something tart and funny in our path. —M. Pols. (R: sexual content) 2 hours. **A**

"A BEAUTIFUL MIND": Very good by-the-book filmmaking from director Ron Howard. The film spans 47 years in the life of John Forbes Nash Jr. (Russell Crowe), a mathematical genius who won the Nobel Prize for economics in 1994. Doubtless the element that made Crowe want to play Nash (brilliantly, as usual) is that Nash also suffers from schizophrenia, and has for decades.

Daring only in its subject matter — math and mental illness — the movie follows the careful trajectory of a classic inspirational story, occasionally veering into the medicinal, but still undeniably moving and effective. Jennifer Connelly is excellent as Nash's wife. —M. Pols. (PG-13: Intense thematic material, sexual content and a scene of violence.) 2 hours, 8 minutes. **B+**

"BIG FAT LIAR": Frankie Muniz plays Jason, a 14-year-old who can't tell the truth. Inspiration strikes when his father complains of the "God-given talent" for making up tales, so he writes a short story on a big fat liar for a homework assignment. By chance, he collides with an obnoxious Hollywood producer on the way to deliver this assignment. The producer (Paul Giamatti), starved for a hit, swipes the story and puts it into production. Jason has lost his assignment, and his excuse is an unbelievable whopper. Jason and his sole pal, Kaylee (Amanda Bynes), set out to get an apology or, failing that, revenge. The film is predictable and overly reliant on the far-fetched, but no lie, it's the hippest kids movie since "Spy Kids." —R. Moore. (PG: some language.) 1 hour, 27 minutes. **B-**

"CROSSROADS": Notable only as Brit-

ney Spears' acting debut. It's bad, but certainly not without merit as entertainment. Spears plays Lucy, high school valedictorian and goody two-shoes, who sets out on a cross-country road trip with two childhood friends, the witchy Kit (Zoe Saldana) and formerly pregnant Mimi (Taryn Manning, seemingly doomed to play trashy teens forever). The main goal of the trip seems to be to loosen up Lucy, a task that mostly falls to her hunky driver, an ex-con named Ben (Anson Mount) who looks a dreamy, but inappropriately, 30. —M. Pols. (PG-13: Sexual content, brief teen drinking.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. **C-**

"DRAGONFLY": This weirdly off-putting romantic ghost story never finds that magical, love-that-transcends-death tone it is aiming for. Kevin Costner plays Joe Darrow, a Chicago emergency-room physician whose wife, Emily (Susanna Thompson), dies in the film's opening scenes when her bus is washed away in a Venezuelan mud slide. After the no-body funeral, the doctor is faced with evidence of supernatural visits. Is Emily (Susanna Thompson) trying to get in touch with him? Director Tom Shadyac lets his film meander along, shocking us with cheap scares and tiny revelations while jamming way too many plot twists into its final act. —R. Moore. (PG-13: thematic material and mild sensuality.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. **C-**

"THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING": A soulful, passionate giant of a movie, one that will live long past 2001. New Zealand director Peter Jackson's ("Heavenly Creatures") adaptation of the first third of J.R.R. Tolkien's epic "Lord of the Rings" enraptures you with its dramatic storytelling and visuals and leaves you rejoicing that there are filmmakers out there who have the guts to make a movie destined for vast commercial success that's also intelligent and ferociously heartfelt. Terrifying when it should be moving when it should be, this holds true to Tolkien's vision. One of the best movies of the year. —M. Pols. (PG-13: epic battle sequences and scary images.) 2 hours, 58 minutes. **A**

"40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS": The most thoroughly entertaining naughty movie to come along yet this short year. Broken-hearted Matt (Josh Hartnett, exuding star quality amid nice comic timing) decides to give up sex for Lent to help himself recover from being dumped. Obstacles arise, including the arrival of the girl of his dreams (Shannyn Sossamon). The film is plagued by the conventions of romantic comedy, but funny in a sweet, though extremely frank, way, thanks largely to director Michael Lehmann, who has a deft hand with the topic of sex. Decency mavens, skip this one. —M. Pols. (R: strong sexual content, nudity and language.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. **B**

"AMC Kabuki 8": 1981's "Kabuki 8" (PG-13: 105, 4:45, 8:30, 10:15, 12:20, 2:25, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 6:45, 8:50, 10:55, 12:55, 1:00, 1:05, 1:10, 1:15, 1:20, 1:25, 1:30, 1:35, 1:40, 1:45, 1:50, 1:55, 2:00, 2:05, 2:10, 2:15, 2:20, 2:25, 2:30, 2:35, 2:40, 2:45, 2:50, 2:55, 3:00, 3:05, 3:10, 3:15, 3:20, 3:25, 3:30, 3:35, 3:40, 3:45, 3:50, 3:55, 4:00, 4:05, 4:10, 4:15, 4:20, 4:25, 4:30, 4:35, 4:40, 4:45, 4:50, 4:55, 5:00, 5:05, 5:10, 5:15, 5:20, 5:25, 5:30, 5:35, 5:40, 5:45, 5:50, 5:55, 6:00, 6:05, 6:10, 6:15, 6:20, 6:25, 6:30, 6:35, 6:40, 6:45, 6:50, 6:55, 7:00, 7:05, 7:10, 7:15, 7:20, 7:25, 7:30, 7:35, 7:40, 7:45, 7:50, 7:55, 8:00, 8:05, 8:10, 8:15, 8:20, 8:25, 8:30, 8:35, 8:40, 8:45, 8:50, 8:55, 9:00, 9:05, 9:10, 9:15, 9:20, 9:25, 9:30, 9:35, 9:40, 9:45, 9:50, 9:55, 10:00, 10:05, 10:10, 10:15, 10:20, 10:25, 10:30, 10:35, 10:40, 10:45, 10:50, 10:55, 11:00, 11:05, 11:10, 11:15, 11:20, 11:25, 11:30, 11:35, 11:40, 11:45, 11:50, 11:55, 12:00, 12:05, 12:10, 12:15, 12:20, 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Reviews

FROM PAGE C4

...the stellar cast (Washington, ... James Woods, Anne ... the inherent moral drama ... lives to ... it's not just the medical ... it's wrong with America. — V ... violence, language, in ... elements.) 1 hour, 58 ...

...C

... (WAR) IN THE LAND OF MU- ... Gino Strada, an Italian ... attempts to build a hospital ... lines in northern ... is the focus of this docu- ... without narration, the film ... with Strada and his compan- ... Kate Rowlands, a British nurse; ... an Italian journalist — ... the misery and chaos of combat ... the film chronicles ... to the area north of Kabul, in ... 2000; and through the images ... the filmmakers are not ... they leave little doubt ... the Afghans have been brutalized ... but suggest that they do not ... have been broken by it. — A.O. ... 1 hour, 54 minutes. A-

... (JESSICA STEIN): Here's ... news. This romantic comedy ... single women who seek ... after growing tired of dating ... warm and funny. Now for ... out loud providing such in- ... a charming way, its ending ... and safe. Jennifer West- ... Heather Juergensen are ... actresses, almost making you ... the story ending. — C. Lemire ... content and language.) 1 ... 38 minutes. C+

... (VIRUS): The discovery of a corpse ... theme for this movie, though it ... a police thriller as it is a ... psychological investigation ... and difficulties of mar- ... the film focuses on four couples, ... a cast top-lined by Anthony ... Geoffrey Rush and Barbara ... doesn't lack for the intensity ... to make its story convinc- ... these people figure in the story ... that corpse. Although we ... get the information we need, ... comes to us directly. Rather, ... feeds us knowledge slowly ... This remarkably thought- ... makes it clear not only how ... to come by any emotional ... in this life, but, more impor- ... we can't give up on the ... K. Turan. (R: language and ... 2 hours. A-

... (MAN WHO WASN'T THERE): ... Joel Coen's chilly black-and- ... to film noir plays out like ... art, the kind of experimenta- ... nduce in once the bills are ... Bob Thornton is fascinating ... as a late 1940s barber who ... mistake of blackmailing his ... (James Gandolfini) to get ... to invest in a dry cleaning ... his fantastically cool look ... it, this is distinctly Coen broth- ... but if you compare it to their ... it feels more like an itch the ... needed to scratch than, say, a ... Of course, with them, even an ... g to be entertaining. — M. ... (a scene of violence.) 1 hour, ... 5 minutes. B

... (ROOM WEDDING): An accom- ... enting blend of com- ... drama from director Mira Nair ... Masala). Over four days, ... Purnabi patriarch prepares ... marriage between his ... and an engineer from

FROM PAGE C3

... (Henry Thomas). His ... have recently separated, ... unseen father has for the ... left his fractured fam- ... in Mexico with another ... Into this lonely void ... so much a paternal fig- ... substitute son — even ... Elliott declares to his older ... Michael (Robert Mac- ... that he's keeping him ... a friend who introduces ... ability of hope that he is ...

... days, children in movies ... become calculatingly cute ... Elliott, Michael and ... child Gertie (Drew Bar- ... feel wondrously real. ... Elliott mentions that Dad ... with Sally, Michael ... scolds him for thinking ... himself as their mother, ... (Drew Wallace-Stone), re- ... sink in tears — then ... next moment tries to get ... washing duty. Gertie ... scream in terror at their ... face meeting. De- ... unfortunate introduc- ... 6-year-old quickly be- ... curious about the little ... criticizes his feet and ... up with the obliging

... whose trail of Reese's ... earned the trust of the ... ows E.T. his toys and ... to introduce Earth life ... and extends to a psychic ... when E.T. is left home alone ... the refrigerator (includ- ... the Coors), Elliott ... is rebuffed. ... restoring scenes such

Houston. Unfortunately the bride is still in love with her married lover, and her spinster cousin is about to drop a bombshell on the family. As thoroughly satisfying, subtle, steamy and balanced between serious and pious as the best weddings actually are. — M. Pols. (R: language, including some sex-related dialogue.) 1 hour, 54 minutes. A-

... ("MONSTER'S BALL"): Loneliness hangs over the first half of director Marc Forster's movie like a sheet of rain, the loneliness of a single mother (Halle Berry), of a man going to the electric chair (Sean Combs) and a friendless racist who has just realized he has nothing to live for (Billy Bob Thornton). Berry and Thornton are both outstanding as a pair of unlikely lovers. A bleak and beautiful movie, and while the rain never stops, it does ease up, offering one of the most delicately redemptive stories we've seen since "Dead Man Walking." — M. Pols. (R: strong sexual content, language, violence.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. A

... ("MULHOLLAND DR."): At the end of this mind-trip, all you can do is laugh. David Lynch has once again led us on a merry dance through a minefield littered with freaks, apple-pie moments we can't trust, terrifying weirdoes and puzzling, possibly pointless scenes. A beautiful ambience and a cheery, innocent in-ecense set out to solve a mystery. Then they become different people. Chances are it's all a dream, or at least half a dream. Makes "Memento" look easy to understand. Lynch probably won't win himself any new fans with this one, but old ones will enjoy this excursion into his creative mind. — M. Pols. (R: violence, language and some strong sexuality.) 2 hours, 26 minutes. B+

... ("RESIDENT EVIL"): Sure, it's based on an enormously popular series of games but haven't we had enough joyless joystick adventures? The film is presented as a prequel to the games, though the virus is released, an underground research complex is sealed off, and a group of commandos is dispatched to find out what happened. Mila Jovovich plays an amnesiac who's had her memory drained. She has a decent action-hero presence that goes to waste in the movie's miasma of silly stunts, drag dialogue and obnoxious industrial music. — D. Germaine. (R: strong sci-fi/horror, violence, language and brief sexuality/nudity.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. D+

... ("RETURN TO NEVER LAND"): James M. Barrie, who died in 1937, never knew the London depicted in Disney's new animated sequel to his beloved "Peter Pan." The streets have been pockmarked by German bombs, and air-raid sirens wail. The original story's central character, Wendy, now is married with children of her own. Her serious-minded daughter, Jane, is whisked away to Never Land, not by Peter Pan, but by the evil Captain Hook, who believes he has custody of Peter's old chum Wendy. We're right for Disney to tinker with Barrie's story? Maybe not. The most important question: Is it decent family enter-tainment? Yes. — V. Kukienski. (G) 1 hour, 12 minutes. C+

... ("THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS"): There's such an irony to director Wes Anderson's playful, highly stylized movie about a family of failed, alienated geniuses that it's like watching a cinematic version of the eccentric literary quarterly *McSweeney's*, something ex-quartely crafted for maximum cleverness. What saves it from being gag-me-precious is the fact that Anderson also has a tender heart to go along with his fetish for detail and eye for the absurd. Amid all the movie's mannerisms are some truths about family that knock you for an unexpectedly emotional loop.

All the performances are delightful, but Gene Hackman, as the Tenenbaums' rascal of a patriarch, is unforgettable. M. Pols. (R: some language, sexuality/nudity and drug content.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. A-

... ("SCRATCH"): Doug Pray's dense, exhilarating documentary portrays "scratching" — a musical technique that involves moving a record back and forth to create a unique sound — as a rapidly evolving, rather insular art form. Among the more than 15 wizards profiled is the Bay Area's DJ Obart, a legend in the hip-hop subculture. As the movie tells it, scratching is as competitive as rapping, which it preceded as a street party style. The film is a bit too conscientiously encyclopedic, however. For all the sonic excitement generated, you eventually long for a broader view of the subculture. — S. Holden. (R: abundant profanity.) 1 hour, 31 minutes. B

... ("SHOWTIME"): William Shatner's bit part in this sendup of those mismatched buddy movies like "Lethal Weapon" is the best part of this rather anemic comedy. Eddie Murphy plays a vain cop who wants to be a movie star and Robert De Niro plays an old-school detective. They're thrown together as stars of a reality-based cop show. There's definite potential here, but it's squandered in middle-of-the-road material. The two stars are hardly at their best, either. — M. Pols. (PG-13: action violence, language and some drug content.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. C-

... ("THE SON'S ROOM"): On the face of it, this Italian film is quiet and contemplative — every bit as calm and serene as its leading character, psychiatrist Giovanni (Nanni Moretti), is thought to be by his sometimes none-too-calm patients. At the start, all seems well. Giovanni has a thriving career. While his patients speak of suicide and murder, Giovanni tends to his well-adjusted family — wife Paola (Laura Morante), daughter Irene (Jasmine Trinca) and son Andrea (Giuseppe Sanfelice). Then one day the teen-age Andrea is killed in a diving accident, and familial harmony is extinguished. This is a story of a family's shared road to recovery, or at least acceptance. Only the hardest-hearted viewer will be unmoved by the final frame of this Cannes prize-winner. — M. Wolf. (R: language and some sexuality.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. A-

... ("THE TIME MACHINE"): This new adaptation of H.G. Wells' classic futuristic story is directed by Simon Wells, great-grandson of H.G. himself. Surely a direct descendant wouldn't soil the memory of either the book or George Pal's 1960 film, right? Well, yes and no. The story has been expanded to present a motivation for the Time Traveler's (Guy Pearce) journey, a romance that the elder Wells might have scoffed at, or at the very least been bored by. On the other hand, some cool elements have been added, including several clever bits of homage to Pal's film and special effects that reflect how far the technology has come since 1960. — M. Pols. (PG-13: intense scenes of action violence.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. B-

... ("WE WERE SOLDIERS"): A surprisingly old-fashioned Vietnam War movie dwelling on the heroism of the soldiers who fought the first major ground battle with the North Vietnamese in 1965. Mel Gibson is fine but not great as the thoughtful officer who leads them into battle. A lack of political context, too much schmaltz and overly graphic war violence unfortunately hold the film back, and it rings too often with the same sort of voice director Randall Wallace used in his cheery script for "Pearl Harbor." — M. Pols. (R: sustained scenes of graphic war violence and language.) 2 hours, 18 minutes. C

IN 1982

Discounting inflation, "E.T." remains the No. 4 top-ticket-sales-generating movie in the United States of all time, following "Gone With the Wind," "Star Wars" and "The Sound of Music." A new conservatism was becoming entrenched in the United States, and throughout the world, in politics and religion when it was released in 1982. Leonid Brezhnev died, and former KGB chief Yuri Andropov took his place. Inflation declined, but U.S. unemployment was at its worst since the Great Depression. A federal court ruled on the breakup of AT&T. And Time magazine bypassed man and woman for machine when it crowned 1982 as the Year of the Computer.

Other films in 1982:

- "Blade Runner"
- "Diner"
- "Fast Times at Ridgemont High"
- "48 Hrs."
- "Gandhi"
- "An Officer and a Gentleman"
- "Poltergeist"
- "The Road Warrior"
- "Sophie's Choice"
- "The Thing"
- "Tootsie"
- "The Verdict"
- "The World According to Garp"

seat with vague memories of youthful sentimentality and realize that it wasn't gullibility, but a child's wonderful insight of what is real.

Vera H-C Chan can be reached at 925-977-8428 or at vchan@cttimes.com.

Oakland

FROM PAGE C3

exhibition, a pencil and watercolor sketch by an unknown artist, of lower Broadway in May 1854.

These are not only historical documents, of course, but artworks. In addition to Bierstadt, many of the artists are widely known. The exhibit includes William Keith's watercolor of a tiny Southern Pacific depot in the woods at Seventh and Adeline streets in 1867; William Clapp's impressionistic view of the Oakland Estuary in the 1920s; photographs by Dorothea Lange of Broadway (with the Paramount Theatre sign in the background) and students gathered at Oakland Technical High School during World War II.

There are additional photos by Edward Muybridge (of Mills College, then called Mills Seminary, in 1873), Carlton E. Watkins (12th and 13th streets, studded with oak trees in 1880), Willard Van Dyke (one of his most famous pictures, a worn-down storefront in the Depression of the 1930s) and Peter Stackpole (a gracefully curving freeway structure, shot from below in 1970).

Paintings as well as photographs bring the story of Oakland up to date and may prompt museum visitors to ask themselves, "What do I see every day

that an artist would see differently? What part of my life, of Bay Area life, will be a memorable image 20 years from now, or 100 years?"

There are suggestions, large and small, of the artist's transformative power in Bernard von Eichman's 1928 watercolor of a lively scene on Seventh Street in West Oakland, when it was known as "Harlem in California"; Anthony Holdsworth's boldly colored 1994 painting of downtown Oakland, with historic structures reflected in the windows of the towering Clorox building; and, dramatically, Mark Downey's photos of the collapsed Cypress freeway, still burning, after the 1989 earthquake, and the blackened ruins of hillside neighborhoods after the 1991 fire.

While this exhibit is specific to Oakland, many scenes represent the Bay Area's history just as well — the farm on the edge of town, the new city where church steeples are the tallest landmarks, the romanticized view of industry and shipping.

Our "lost world" is just as evident elsewhere in the Oakland Museum's galleries — in Carl Von Perbandt's "View of Carquinez Strait," 50 years before the bridge was built; Fortunato Ariola's "Howard Street Evening" from 1865, when the gritty San Francisco street looked like foggy London; and Alexander Edouart's "Santa Clara Valley" of 1858, a scene inhabited

by a few farmers, oxen and lambs amid fields of grain.

The museum's curator of "Scene in Oakland," Harvey L. Jones, says he tried to depict "a living and changing city" in the exhibition. For all the pastoral paintings of oak-studded meadows, there are also paintings and photographs that are not "postcard views of Oakland," he notes. Among them are Van Dyke's photo of an abandoned store in the 1930s and a more recent photo of a bleak Oakland residential building with the words "ghost town" spray-painted on a wall.

If this exhibition were a visitor's only view of Oakland and its history, it would be easy to judge the city as beautiful and charming — in the past.

Jones says Oakland gets a "bad rap" from people who don't know the city. Downtown, in particular, has come to life again, and not just in Anthony Holdsworth's paintings.

"Preservation Park, artificial as it may be, is a nice reminder of the city's past," Jones says. "There's still a stretch of downtown that's underutilized or boarded up, but all you have to do is visit any other American urban center and you'll see far worse. Here we are at the beginning of the 21st century, and I think Oakland is looking pretty good."

Mann

FROM PAGE C3

MEDIA NOTES: Drudge also provides frequent links to the Web site of the Washington Post, a first-rate newspaper not widely read out here. The Post carried a funny story this week (quickly picked up by TV news-casts) about post-Sept. 11 teen slang headlined "Osama Yo Mama." It included, among others, these new coinages: Bedrooms that are a total mess are "ground zero." If a student is disciplined, "It was total jihad." Out-of-style clothing: "Is that a burqa?" The Post's story includes one we first heard and reported here in late September. Petty concerns are now addressed thusly: "that's so Sept. 10."

Occasional reader Mark Seleznow e-mails me that KTVU has shortened Mark Ibanez's 10:00 sportscast to a scant two minutes. (I say "occasional" because we ran this item a month ago, Mark). Seleznow fired off an angry note to KTVU's news director, Andrew "Don't Call Me Andy" Finlayson. Mark forwarded Finlayson's response, one I found thoughtful and one I also agreed with. Finlayson acknowledged "we have changed the way we do sports," and offered a reasonable explanation. KTVU, the news boss explained, regularly has live sports reports on both its morning and noon newscasts (unlike other stations) and Channel 2 still has a large commitment to sports. Frankly, I thought KTVU had TOO much of a commitment, and I'm glad to see it reined in a bit. But cutting Ibanez back from seven minutes to two may have been a tad much; 3-4 minutes sounds about right.

Speaking of last Sunday's "60 Minutes" as we were above, it really hit home this week how shallow long-time reporter Ed Bradley's celeb interviews are. I'd just read the New Yorker's impressive, in-depth profile of talented perennial Oscar nominee Judi Dench. Bradley's sycophantic chat with the estimable British thespian Sunday seemed more than a bit superficial by comparison. At one point, Bradley actually seemed surprised to hear that a performer would have (gasp) insecurities when Dench expressed a few of hers. Imagine!

Two good bets on TV next week: If you saw the documentary film "The Endurance" when it played in theaters recently, you probably liked this first-rate story of explorer Ernest Shackleton's remarkable 1914 adventure as much as I did. Next Tuesday night at 8, KQED-TV has a two-hour "Nova" special called "Shackleton's Voyage of Endurance" that's even better than "The Endurance" in one key area. Tuesday's "Nova" humanizes Shackleton and his hardy crew far more than the movie does by using diary entries and interviews with living relatives of Shackleton's hardy crew.

There are a bunch of mid-season replacement series hitting the broadcast networks next week, but Fox's funny sitcom, "Greg the Bunny" debuting on KTVU Wednesday night just may be the best of them. Think of this new puppet/live-action series, starring talented "SECT" alum Eugene Levy, as a cross between "The Muppet Show" and "SECT." Its clever skewering of Hollywood neuroses and The Biz is as appealing as its perverse nature.

Great New York Times headline about Fox's "Celebrity Boxing," which repeated this week: "Celeb Has-Beens Quality For 16th Minute of Fame." Speaking of the briefly fa-

mous, Oakland car salesman and the East Bay's local media gadfly, Rich "Big Vinnie" Lieberman, whose Round Table Pizza TV commercials were ubiquitous for about two months last year, helpfully faxes me his list of Top 20 Local Media Celebrity Salaries. I used to publish such a list each year at the Examiner. Someone has to do it, so it might as well be Hills reader and media junkie Lieberman. I asked the Ford salesman, by the way, where he got his salary figures (most of them, to my reckoning, seem in the ballpark). Lieberman would say only conspiratorially, "I have good sources, Bill." The fact that Lieberman is a "close personal friend" of Larry King's compels me to run his list:

1. Dennis Richmond (KTVU), \$1.1 million; 2. Pete Wilson (KGO), \$850K; 3. Gary Radnick (KRON/KNBR) 845K; 4. Kate Kelly (KPX), 545K; 5. Wendy Tokuda (KRON), Ronn Owens (KGO Radio) and Dan Ashley (KGO-TV), 450K; 8. Leslie Griffith (KTVU), 395K (note: seems a tad low, Rich); 9. Pam Moore (KRON), 350K; 10. Hank Plante (KPX), 300K; 11. Ibanez and Ross McGowan (KTVU), 275K; 13. Mark Mullen (KRON), 250K; 14. Ralph Barbieri (KNBR), 225K; 15. Ed "Big Screen" Baxter (KGO Radio) and Greg Papa (KTCT), 200K; 17. Ted Wygant (KGO Radio) and Don Bleu (Star-101.3), 150K; 19. Rita Williams (KTVU), 120K. The 20th name on Rich's list is actually tied for 17th: It's "Actor/car salesman" Lieberman himself, who reports he made 150 K (Ted Wygant-type bucks). 2001 must have been a good year for pizzas, Crown Victorias and Focuses.

(Questions or comments? E-mail Bill: Newsmann@sonic.net)

Events

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Fibrosis Foundation. \$80. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 267-9699 or www.academygala.com

PARKWAY SPEAKEASY THEATRE — Academy Awards Party, March 24, 5 p.m. Enjoy the Oscar Ceremony from the comfort of the theater couches while eating pizza \$10. 1834 Parkway Drive, Oakland. (510) 814-2400.

WEST COAST LIVE — Join the studio audience as Sedge Thomson hosts musical guests, authors and others for his live radio broadcast.

March 30, 10 a.m.: With musical guests Mike Marshall and Darol Anger.

\$12. Freight and Salvage Coffeehouse, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. (415) 664-9500 or www.wcl.org

Exhibits

ACCI GALLERY — "Coming into Focus," through April 30. New works by Bay Area artists Meggan Kofuske, Sharon Mitchell, Susan Putnam, Vee Tuteur and Robert Welsh. Free. Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 843-2527 or www.accigallery.com

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NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TRIPLEX

By David J. Kahn/Edited by Will Shortz

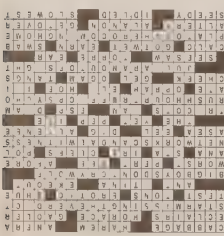
<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Head of the produce section?</p> <p>8 Bunich's charge</p> <p>13 End of ____</p> <p>18 Bakery treats</p> <p>19 "Even Homer needs" writer</p> <p>20 Key person in England</p> <p>21 Result of an Oscar nominee's disappearance at an awards ceremony? [releases of 1985, 1982 and 1982]</p> <p>24 Sampling</p> <p>25 Seeds</p> <p>26 Hot</p> <p>27 "Soapdish" actress</p> <p>28 Carpenter ____</p> <p>30 1986 rock autobiography</p> <p>32 Munge</p> <p>34 Advice to a budding alarmist? [1988, 1999, 1994]</p> <p>40 ____ case</p> <p>41 Fresh</p> <p>42 Extra-wide shoe spec.</p> <p>43 Ere</p> <p>47 Bibliophilic suffix</p> <p>48 Stopping point: Abbr.</p> <p>50 Something that's worked up</p>	<p>52 C, F and G</p> <p>55 Campaigner</p> <p>56 Charles Van Doren vis-à-vis the game show "Twenty-One" [1976, 1989, 1985]</p> <p>61 Not docked</p> <p>62 Glass ____</p> <p>63 Like a bunch</p> <p>64 Heir, at law</p> <p>65 With 51-Down, old movie finale</p> <p>67 Anyhow</p> <p>70 Zing</p> <p>72 Diamonds</p> <p>73 Warp-knit fabrics</p> <p>77 Cole Porter's ____ in Love</p> <p>79 Uncommon sense</p> <p>81 Circle meas.</p> <p>85 Producer of a big accident? [1998, 2000, 1960]</p> <p>90 Tucked away</p> <p>91 Big name in book clubs</p> <p>92 "The Whiffenpoof Song" singer</p> <p>93 Row producer</p> <p>94 Richard ____</p> <p>95 Sassy</p> <p>97 Goofy stuff</p> <p>99 Old Irish alphabet: Vrr</p> <p>101 Tastes</p> <p>103 Why the paparazzi couldn't photograph actress Roberts? [1977, 1985, 1998]</p> <p>108 Lack stability</p>	<p>110 Yankees manager Joe</p> <p>111 Attention</p> <p>112 Math course, informally</p> <p>113 Walked in the rain, say</p> <p>116 Bring in</p> <p>118 Mop</p> <p>122 Heartwarming scene in a war movie? [1986, 1992, 1978]</p> <p>128 Shifts</p> <p>129 Noisy support group</p> <p>128 Recover from</p> <p>129 Poorly kept</p> <p>130 Hung around</p> <p>131 Least sharp</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 "____ You!" (1927 song hit)</p> <p>2 Mollie play part</p> <p>3 "Gill ____"</p> <p>4 Grasshoppers can help make them</p> <p>5 Fire preceder?</p> <p>6 Tough and courageous</p> <p>7 "Happy Motoring" sloganer</p> <p>8 Dear</p> <p>9 Silver</p> <p>10 Blind</p> <p>11 Parrot</p> <p>12 Come up</p> <p>13 Swiss river</p> <p>14 Dezes</p> <p>15 Diplomat Root</p>	<p>16 Like some movies for TV</p> <p>17 What Michelangelo produced</p> <p>18 Not just noteworthy</p> <p>20 Creature with puffed toes</p> <p>22 Like some remarks</p> <p>23 Desirable hotel room feature</p> <p>29 Untrue</p> <p>31 Prefix with species</p> <p>33 Flexible</p> <p>34 Master, in Swahili</p> <p>35 Actress Skye and others</p> <p>36 Annoy, in a way</p> <p>37 Uttered, old-style</p> <p>38 Confine again</p> <p>39 Cheerleader's practice</p> <p>44 Big tournament</p> <p>45 Mounted</p> <p>46 Different</p> <p>49 Perch, perhaps</p> <p>51 See 65-Across</p> <p>53 ____ Beach, Hawaii</p> <p>54 Fra ____ Lippi</p> <p>57 Band instrument?</p> <p>58 Insidious</p> <p>59 Dance flourish</p> <p>60 Like some scholarship winners</p> <p>66 New Jersey town with a hyphenated name</p> <p>68 Flexible person's choice</p> <p>69 Really beat</p> <p>71 Four Seasons Hotel architect</p> <p>73 ____ II razor</p> <p>74 Ancestress of King David</p> <p>75 "Got it"</p> <p>76 Opposite of norte</p> <p>78 Cinnic ____</p> <p>80 Pinhead</p> <p>82 Sugar coat?</p> <p>83 On ____ (exulting)</p> <p>84 Teary</p> <p>86 Eastern music style</p> <p>87 Astound</p> <p>88 Plan for</p> <p>89 ____ good example (is a role model)</p> <p>96 Boated</p> <p>98 Quarterback's option</p> <p>100 First-stringers</p> <p>102 It has many loops</p> <p>104 African capital until 1991</p> <p>105 Cry of glee</p> <p>106 All's opposite</p> <p>107 Herb used in casseroles</p> <p>108 Explorer Sieur de La ____</p> <p>109 Send, in a way</p> <p>112 Sched. C preparers</p> <p>114 Spicy cuisine</p> <p>115 Unite</p> <p>117 Fixes</p> <p>119 Cnsscrossed</p> <p>120 Iowa State site</p> <p>121 A Muppet</p> <p>123 Suffix with access</p> <p>124 Trawler's catch</p> <p>125 Car in a 1964 hit song</p>
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

The Buddy Club presents famous Los Angeles magician and comedian Tye the Magic Guy from 1 to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 24, at the Berkeley JCC Theater, 1414 Walnut St. The Stupendous Mr. Magichead is a magician who can't seem to figure out how his illusions work, where his rabbit is hiding, or why



everyone in the audience is laughing so hard. Call 238-SHOW for information, tickets, and party reservations or visit on-line at www.thebuddyclub.com.

Our School presents a Prospective Parents Information program from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday March 23, in St. John's Community Center, 2727 College Ave., Room 203. Learn about the school's unique approach to education. Meet the head teacher-director and other parents. Call 704-0701, to reserve a space or for a tour.

Community

The Fourth Annual Stomp the Stumps Benefit dance party is at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at Ashkenazi, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. The event features the Funky Nixons, the Gary Gates Band, the Shut-ins and other special guests. This is a benefit for Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters. Sliding scale admission, \$8-20. For more information, call 548-3113.

The Albany Preschool presents the Easter Bunny, arriving at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 30, at Albany Memorial Park for a morning of fun and games at

the Spring Fair. Admission to the Spring Fair and Egg Hunt is free. Tickets to participate in other activities will be on sale. The refreshment booth will be open before the egg hunt and beverages and snacks will be available for purchase throughout the morning. Albany Memorial Park is located at Portland Avenue and Ramona Street. The Fair will move to the Albany community center if it is raining. For more information, call 526-4096.

Berkeley Camera Club meet Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941- The Alameda, Berkeley. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more information, call Don at 525-3565.

TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensibly) Chapter CA 1294 is now meeting from 7:15-8:30 p.m. every Thursday evening at Mira Vista UCC Church, 7075 Cutting Blvd. TOPS is a non-profit organization assisting men and women in weight control. For more information call Betty Coates at 235-0490. This chapter has moved from Richmond.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Ban-

croft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment. To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levine Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education. For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370

Marion Rosen, founder of Rosen Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experimental practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 845-6606.

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-

See CALENDAR, Page C7

49th Annual Junior Bach Festival

Concert 1 March 15 7:30 p.m. St. John's Presbyterian Church
 Concert 2 March 16 3:00 p.m. San Francisco Conservatory
 Concert 3 March 17 3:00 p.m. St. John's Presbyterian Church
 Concert 4 March 17 7:30 p.m. St. John's Presbyterian Church
 Concert 5 March 21 7:30 p.m. First Congregational Church
 Concert 6 March 22 7:30 p.m. Hillside Church
 Concert 7 March 23 7:30 p.m. Hillside Church
 Concert 8 March 24 3:00 p.m. First Congregational Church

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Calendar

FROM PAGE C7

Training in fire suppression, light rescue and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 897 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

Exhibits

Richmond Museum of History continues exhibits highlighting Richmond's historical beginnings, industrial achievements, and homefront contributions during WWII. Special exhibits and events are held throughout the year. The museum is located in the Old Down town area at the corner of 4th Street and Nevin Ave. Call 235-7367 for more information or to arrange tours.

Literary Events

Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Webster Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge, after that, no reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

Meetings

Gray Panthers meet at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, at the Alameda County Center, 1901 Street St. Jim Ace of the Clean Money Campaign, and the League of Women

Voters will talk about "Clean Money, Clean Politics: Campaign Finance Reform in a Democracy." For more information, call 548-9696.

The Berkeley Camera Club meets Tuesday evenings 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more information, call Don at 525-3565.

The Kensington Senior Activity Center meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The center's community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Call 526-9146 or 547-1969 for additional information.

The YWCA offers free orientations every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the center's resources and the variety of workshops it offers to the public. For additional information, call 848-6370.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express Toastmasters, The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting: Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 863-6708 for additional information.

Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) meets every Thursday evening at the First Baptist Church, Richmond, on Solano below Arlington. Call Betty Coates 235-0490 for more information.

Joy of Yiddish: Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

tional information. The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Herick Campus, 201 Dwight Way. Dr. Brian Kaye, a rheumatologist has treated many patients with various types of arthritis and will be available for questions. For additional information call 204-4503.

Toastmasters on Campus meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillegas. Details: 704-1822.

Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together at Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegas Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

"Voices of Healing" is a group exploring the psychological and spiritual dimensions of illness and healing. The group meets on the second Friday of each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for more information.

State Health Toastmasters Club meet every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

Higher Alignment: 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; (415) 461-5337; \$20.

Alta Bates Support Groups - Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month, 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12 step program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaser Hos-

pital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

TOPS: 9:30 a.m., Mondays, Take Pounds Off Sensibly. Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-6858.

Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday

See CALENDAR, Page C9



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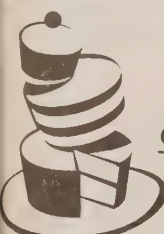
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AE.....American Express	\$.....Entrées under \$7
CB.....Carte Blanche	\$.....\$7-\$14
DC.....Diners Club	\$.....\$15-\$20
DS.....Discover Card	\$.....\$20+
MC.....MasterCard	
VS.....Visa	FB.....Full Bar
AC.....All Cards accepted	RR.....Reservations recommended
CA.....Checks accepted	W.....Wheelchair access

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1428 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley (510) 528-5030
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Ther-Naaree Thai Restaurant
977 San Pablo Avenue, Albany (510) 525-7000
(between Marin Ave. & Solano Ave., across from Albany City Hall)
Come and experience a new, unique and beautifully decorated Thai restaurant in the East Bay, featuring a true Thai taste. The restaurant offers the very best in Thai cuisine, made with the highest quality ingredients with no MSG added. Chefs were trained at the elegant Five Star Dusit Thani Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand. The restaurant name, Ther-Naaree means goddess and a beautiful hand painted mural showing the beauty of the Kinnaree goddesses, highlights the comfortable, and attractive ambience of the dining room. Hours: Lunch - Mon-Sat 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Dinner - Mon-Sun. 5:00-10:00 p.m. Off - Street parking is available. AE, DS, MC, VS, \$\$, W

Pasta Pelican
2455 Mariner Square Drive, Alameda (510) 504-7427
For the past four years, Pasta Pelican Restaurant has been delighting its guests with a variety of unique dishes. Their extensive menu offers veal, steak, seafood, chicken, classic pastas, salads, sandwiches and appetizers. Guests are raving about this waterfront restaurant for their famous fresh baked bread, fried calamari, homemade clam chowder, variety of salads, attentive, friendly service, and inviting atmosphere. All this for what is considered to be one of the best values in the Bay Area. Formerly the Rusty Pelican, the restaurant is located in Alameda, behind the Webster Tube, with a spectacular view of Jack London Square and the Oakland Hills. You will truly enjoy this fine dining experience. Parking and docking are free. For reservations, please call (510) 504-7427.

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant
300 - 29th Avenue, Oakland (510) 261-1621
Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, Angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular earlybird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. The Pier is open 7 days a week, Mon. - Fri. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. Bar Hours: Mon. - Thu. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m., Fri. - Sat.

Pagarung Thai Cuisine
6200 Antioch Street, Oakland (510) 339-0566
(Montclair district Behind Safeway)
Pagarung Thai Cuisine takes pride in providing customers with excellent cuisine and service since October, 2000. Its authentic menu and inviting atmosphere will satisfy your appetite.

Sergio's Trattoria
3299 College Ave., Oakland (510) 655-2569
Dining is only part of what makes Sergio's such an outstanding restaurant. The waiters always take time to chat with patrons and help determine personal tastes and food preferences - extra garlic, light but spicy, decadent.
Regular patrons trust the waiter's choice and don't even look at the menu. Seafood, pasta, chicken, meat, even wild boar are featured; plus creative daily specials (with gourmet descriptions).
"The food tastes good because it's made with extra amore," the owner, Sergio chuckled. Newly decorated, Sergio's is lovelier than ever.
Whether you dine inside or in the heated outdoor patio, it's an intimate setting with easy listening Italian background music. VS, MC, \$\$.
Tail Deserts
4001B Piedmont Ave. Oakland (510) 601-7780
Visit us for your spring holiday desserts. Our holiday dessert menu is available from March 22nd through March 31st. Our menu includes Egg Cookies (egg shaped butter vanilla sugar cookies, decorated in Spring Colors), Egg Cakes (a miniature egg shaped vanilla genoise cake with Mocha cream, enrobed in chocolate ganache with dark chocolate splits on the side and decorated with a spray of yellow flowers), Carrot Cake, Passover Desserts, such as Coconut Macaroons (a classic Macaroon loaded with coconut and sweetened with honey, with just a hint of almond) and Chocolate Matzo Torte (a dense rich torte of chocolate, almonds and orange enrobed in ganache and sided with toasted almonds). Also featuring Joseph Schmidts Truffles.

Pasta Pelican

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Basil Crispy Chicken

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Calendar

PAGE C7

from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the
Auditorium on Herrick Campus,
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winning Berkeley High School
Ensemble and combos will be per-
forming at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 22, at
Pierone Schwinley Little Theater,
Mission Way, Berkeley. Last summer,
the ensemble toured Europe where they daz-
zled audiences at the Montreux and Um-
magine Festivals. Tickets, available only
by advance purchase, \$8 for adults and \$5 for se-
niors. For more information, call 848-1761 or
visit the Web site at
www.berkeleychamberperform.org.

First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley,
2407 Dana St., presents a 90-voice Chan-
cel Choir with the California Chamber
Symphony at 8 p.m. Sunday, March 24. A
pre-concert lecture is at 7:30 p.m. The
program includes Ludwig van
Beethoven's masterful work, "Mass in C"
Childcare is available. Free admission; a
free-will offering will be taken. Call 848-

haz Dickens will be
performing at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at
St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 Col-
lege Ave. Dickens will perform with Dud-

ley Connell plus Laurie Lewis and Tom
Rozum, Jody Stischer and Kate Brielin,
Kathy Kalick, and the Bluegrass Inten-
tions. Dickens received a National Her-
itage Fellowship from the National Endow-
ment for the Arts for her bluegrass work.
Tickets: \$18.50 and \$19.50. For more in-
formation, call 548-1761.

Berkeley Chamber Performances, 2315
Durant Ave., presents pianists "Glover and
Hansen," at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 26.
The program includes the works of Lu-
toslawski, Dukewicz, Rachmaninoff and
others. Tickets available at the door or by
mail. General \$18, students and seniors,
\$15. For more information regarding tick-
ets call 525-2002 or visit the Web site at
www.berkeleychamberperform.org.

Shotgun Players presents Adam Bock's "A
Fairly Tall," at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 23,
at Julia Morgan Theater, 2640 College
Ave. The story, written expressly for Shot-
gun Players, is a tale of a tough little girl

6242 or visit the Web site at
www.ipcberkeley.org.

Lecture/Workshop

East Bay Heritage Quilters present a lecture
by Flo Oy Wong entitled "Angel Island, Im-
migration and Family Stories," at 7:30
p.m. Monday, March 25, at the First Uni-
tarian Church, 1 Lawson Road — Mooser
Lane at Arlington, Kensington. Members
free, non-members \$3. For more informa-
tion, call Sonia Callahan at 834-3706

Theater, Dance & Film

The film "Hazel Dickens: It's Hard to Tell the
Singer from the Song," will be shown at 7
p.m. Thursday, March 21, at UC Berke-
ley's Pacific Film Archive Theater, Bancroft
at Bowditch. Meet bluegrass pioneer
Hazel Dickens, filmmaker Mimi Pickering
and folklorist/author Archie Green. For
ticket information call 642-1412

Shotgun Players presents Adam Bock's "A
Fairly Tall," at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 23,
at Julia Morgan Theater, 2640 College
Ave. The story, written expressly for Shot-
gun Players, is a tale of a tough little girl

who seeks the freedom to tell her own
story. Tickets: \$18 adults, \$12 children
and seniors. For more information, call
704-8210.

WIT Productions, 2424 10th St., presents
Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice,"
through March 31 at the Berkeley City
Club, 2315 Durant Ave. Hours are:
Wednesday through Thursday, 7 p.m. and
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p.m. Cost \$25, general admission. Help
price Wednesdays. Discounts available;
call for details. Call 925-798-1300 for reser-
vations or more information.

Classes

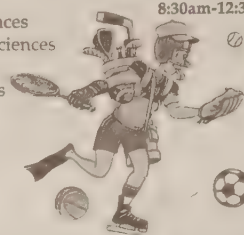
Vista Community College offers classes in
Adventure Travel, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thurs-
days through May 23. The course covers
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venture, soft adventure, and cultural/spiritual
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- Based at the Pinole Youth Center
- Weekly fee of \$160* includes 3 field trips: Goldensgate, IMAX & S.F. Zoo
- *Membership fee may apply.
- This program is brought to you in partnership with the City of Pinole.
- Register now at the Hilltop YMCA or Pinole City Hall

SPLASH, ages 3-14

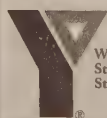
- Mon.-Thurs., April 1-4
- FREE beginner level swim & water safety instruction at the Hilltop YMCA & Pinole Swim Center
- Includes four, 1/2 hour lessons, morning, afternoon & evening times available. Program is FREE to the community, no membership required, advanced registration is required. Call our automated registration line at (510) 451-8041 ext. 250 to sign up or for more information.

HILLTOP FAMILY YMCA

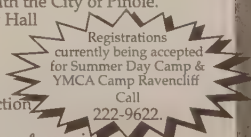
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Auto Plus

Advertising supplement to The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, March 22, 2002

Section D

Classic Classics: Buick from 1965 in mint condition [D3]

any drivers of
VWs fail to heed
safety lessons

BY ROYAL FORD
THE BOSTON GLOBE

There are images that linger on
the way of awareness the way frost
is stubbornly to a corner of a
shield just out of the defroster's

12 miles of state road,
straight, with only wide,
curves. I see a sudden
squall. And along those 12
miles I see five cars off the road,
on its side. All are SUVs.

The image comes back to me
from a Frontline television doc-
umentary entitled, "Rollover — The
History of the SUV."

Why didn't the government do
more to protect American drivers?
The narrator asks, reaching back into
the regulation-busting period of the
mid-1980s.

Referring to the Ford Ex-
plorer's fiasco that, years
ago, brought SUV safety questions
to the fore, the narrator asks: "The
government couldn't get enough of the
SUV, but was it the most im-
portant?"

It wasn't. This was more like
a scab over a wound that
hadn't healed.

I have known for a couple of
years that Jeeps, Broncos,
Brazers, and other tall, top-
heavy vehicles rolled over
easier than cars. I've driven
on test grounds that were far
safer than the Ford Explorer.
In an increasing frequency
of accidents in direct proportion
to their popularity, we
drive them like idiots.

Most tailgating drivers. Mak-
ing lane changes at high
speed. Thinking, somehow,
that a wheel drive makes it OK to go
slippery, snowy roads; that
it makes it easier to cor-
ner, stop, a multi-ton vehicle
into an emergency situa-

tion. I don't know the history, you
been paying attention.
In the early '80s, the US auto in-
dustry was gasping. Federal rules
on consumption were killing off
the guzzler even as efficient
companies enjoyed great

auto industry's answer?
The top-of-the-line 9-5 has been
dubbed the Aero, a name desig-
nation that designers say pays
homage to Saab's aircraft heritage.
Aero sedans and wagons are true

the SUVs. Page D4



THE 2002 ARC is a sporty touring wagon loaded with luxury, including seats that both warm and cool the backs and bottoms of driver and front passenger.

Architectural names and revisions mark Saab 9-5

BY CONNIE KEANE
MOTOR MATTERS

Saab designers sharpened their
drafting pencils in defining the 9-5
model line.

If people were to describe their
home as a ranch, Cape Cod or
mansion, you could form a mental
image of the shape of the house.

If I were to describe my car as
Linear, Arc or Aero what images
come to mind?

The new model names of the 9-5
sedans and sport wagons are de-
rived from the world of architecture.
Saab has belittled these models
with individual personality, shaped
by interior trim, upholstery, power-
train and wheel packages.

Linear is the simplest of the 9-5
three designs. These 9-5 sedans
and sport wagons are equipped
with a 2.3-liter light-pressure tur-
bocharged four-cylinder engine.

The Arc is a more sporty design
that comes with a 3.0-liter tur-
bocharged V6 engine.

The top-of-the-line 9-5 has been
dubbed the Aero, a name desig-
nation that designers say pays
homage to Saab's aircraft heritage.
Aero sedans and wagons are true

CONNIE KEANE
Keane on Wheels

performance vehicles equipped with
a 250-horsepower high-output tur-
bocharged four-cylinder powerplant,
featuring 17-inch wheels and bol-
stered sport seats.

These models range in price
from \$33,995 to \$39,350.

My test-drive model is the 9-5
Arc sport wagon riding on 16-inch
alloy wheels and equipped with a
new five-speed adaptive automatic
transmission.

This turbocharged V6 engine
puts out 200 horsepower at 5,000
rpm and 229 pound-feet of torque
between 2,500 and 4,000 rpm.

The Arc is a sporty touring
wagon loaded with luxury, includ-
ing genuine walnut trim and a 200-
watt AM/FM/CD audio system.

The firm, well-upholstered
leather seats are my favorite feature
inside the 9-5. The luxurious trea-
sure inside these seats is their abil-
ity to warm and cool the backs and
bottoms of the front seat occupants.

The driver and passenger both
have dual controls that regulate
whether the seats are heated or
cooled.

While many motorists have seen
the heated-seat feature on vehicles,
not many have been exposed to
the air-conditioned seat feature.

Saab has installed small fans in
the seatbacks and cushions; these
fans pull air through the perforated
leather to cool the occupants.

The exterior shape and design
of my tester is true to its name: Arc.
Easy round curves from the roof to
the hood and rear give the sport
wagon a clean aerodynamic, scul-
ptured appearance.

Some of the revisions for 2002
include an extended front bumper,
a chrome grille and clear headlight
lenses.

Saab says it's the long, dark
Swedish winters that have trained
engineers how to improve lighting.

For 2002, the 9-5 features new
bi-xenon headlights, a superior
lighting system to the more con-
ventional halogen lighting.

Xenon is a white light providing
a wider perimeter for seeing the

edges of the roadway.

So that the bi-xenon lights do
not disturb other motorists, Saab
engineers worked with the lamp
supplier in developing electronic fil-
ters to shade the brightness.

As the car's body travels up and
down over various roadways, sen-
sors connected to the front and rear
axles instruct each bulb to decrease
intensity.

The 2002 9-5 has an improved
chassis, resulting in crisper handling.

Saab targeted the front-end to re-
duce the roll some drivers may have
noticed during hard cornering.

Subframe improvements result
in a steering wheel feel that requires
less assistance in the straight-ahead
position.

For the first time, the 9-5 lineup
offers Electronic Stability Control
which works in conjunction with the
traction control and ABS to give the
driver greater security in the event
of emergency swerving.

SAAB 9-5 ARC WAGON

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger front-wheel drive midsize wagon
Suggested Retail	\$39,350
Price as Tested	\$41,100
Engine Type	DOHC 24-valve, 3-liter turbo V6 w/Trionic direct injection
Horsepower	200 at 5,000 rpm
Torque	229 at 2,500-4,000 rpm
Transmission	Five-speed automatic
Overall Length	190 inches
Overall Width	71 inches
Curb Weight	3,730 pounds
Fuel Capacity	19 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 18/26
Strong Feature	Design
Weak Feature	Nothing worth mentioning

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GMC's Sierra Pro Plus: a show truck beyond the ordinary

MOTOR MATTERS

Looking inside GMC Sierra Pro Plus is like opening Uncle Bob's steel tool chest and discovering hideaway compartments filled with fine jewelry. Inside this three-quarter-ton show truck is a surprise package brimming with unexpected amenities.

"Sierra Pro Plus is engineered to deliver advantages beyond a customer's expectations," said Lorraine Babiar, Sierra's assistant brand manager.

"It offers a new dimension in work capability, answering construction and commercial needs, as well as offering solutions toward organizing a vehicle on an everyday basis."

GMC's goal was to create a flexible, reconfigurable truck that becomes an extension of how owners view themselves as professionals. It is the "ultimate professional-grade tool" — a portable work station, as well as a means to tote and organize tools.

Unveiled at the 2001 Special Equipment Market Association show in Las Vegas, Sierra Pro Plus is an expansion of ideas introduced at SEMA in 1999 with the GMC Sierra Professional show truck.

"It's GMC's professional-grade philosophy taken to the next level — an answer to the question, 'If

TIM SPELL

Truck Talk

we're going to do more for the customer, what would it be?" " said Babiar.

Unexpected amenities are numerous. Highlight features include rear-quarter side storage, tailgate with integrated ramps, under-seat rear storage and multifunction floor console.

Rear-quarter panels are put to clever use by opening them to create work benches and access hollowed-out storage compartments. Hidden within each exterior side cavity are interchangeable bins, a toolbox, storage buckets, tool trays, portable snake lights and tool kits.

Heavy wheeled components — such as air compressors, dollies or wheelbarrows — can be rolled into the cargo box on ramps, which conveniently extend from their home in a self-contained tailgate.

Along with providing ramps to prevent backbreaking lifting, this tailgate can be configured with extenders that lengthen the loading surface.

Long items — such as ladders, pipe and lumber — can hitch a high ride on a TracRac Bed Rack System. This convenient, above-bed

rack is offered on production pickups through GM Accessories.

Within its four-door, extended cab, Sierra Pro Plus offers a blend of an office environment and utility shed.

Beneath the 60/40-split bench rear seat is a lockable storage box that is reconfigurable to suit the owner's needs.

This feature also includes a small toolbox, and removing the 40-percent seat section allows the space to be filled with organizer bins for tool storage.

A floor console storage lockable unit transforms the cab into a business center, including a personal digital assistant and cell-phone storage station with charging outlets.

Of course, the console is fitted with cupholders, but the cool thing about these is they're temperature controlled to keep beverages hot or cold.

A removable, thermo-electric cooler is included for use inside or outside the cab. Keeping organized is made easier with the option of removing the cooler to convert the center console into a hanging file folder.

Engineering a beyond-expectations pickup also calls for a powertrain that exceeds normal limits. Sierra Pro Plus is fitted with a Vortec



GMC DESIGNED the Sierra Pro Plus as a portable work station, as well as a means to organize tools, and gave it a supercharged V8 engine.

6000 V8 engine like the one available for other GM trucks, but with a supercharged boost.

In standard production form, GM's 6.8-liter delivers 300 horsepower.

Supercharging pumps V8 output to 328 horsepower. This supercharger is under consideration for future use, as are Sierra Pro Plus' organizational items. Including potential-to-market fea-

tures in a display truck offers show visitors a hint at the future. Their feedback often is a key to whether experimental design and engineering features will be used in future production models.

Sierra Pro Plus pushes GMC's professional-grade philosophy to a higher level.

Its design and engineering is inspired by the Terradyne, an elite, chiseled-bodied concept pickup.

Terradyne team in sending the buyers of future should expect to see

Babiar said about bringing ready-for-order items to satisfy professional

The Sierra Pro Plus includes Sierra Professional console and tailgate, should be in

Light trucks move upstairs, upscale and into the lead with buyers

BY RICK POPELY AND JIM MATEJA
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO — As a Ford engineer describes the vehicle he helped create, it sounds like a sports car: supercharged V-8 engine, 380 horsepower, zero to 60 mph in 5.8 seconds and a top speed of 142 mph.

But Al Sudydam is talking about a pickup truck, the Ford F-150 SVT Lightning.

"Just leave the truck part out of it," Sudydam says of the Lightning. "Consider it a Mustang Cobra with an extremely generous trunk."

The pickup truck, formerly a farm implement and mechanized mule for the lunch-bucket crowd, now serves the country-club set as a hot rod, luxury sedan and all-American fashion statement that may never carry anything heavier than groceries.

Likewise, sport-utility vehicles have been transformed from spartan workhorses intended for hazardous off-road service to luxury vehicles that seldom travel on anything except smooth roads.

In some ritzy neighborhoods, chances are that the second "car" parked next to the BMW or Lexus sedan is a truck. Industry data show that 20 percent of all luxury car owners also own a pickup.

Gary White, vehicle line executive in charge of General Motors' full-size trucks, says big pickups and SUVs attract a wealthier clientele with more disposable income than the average buyer.

"That buyer wants the best and can afford the best," he said.

Total truck sales (pickups, SUVs and vans) grew to a record 8.67 million last year from 2.3 million in 1981. In 2001, trucks outsold cars for the first time. Trucks accounted for 21 percent of the new-vehicle market 20 years ago and 50.5 percent last year.

SUV sales rose to 4 million last year from 147,000 in 1981. In the last 10 years,

the number of SUV models has grown to 61 from 26, with more coming.

By contrast, full-size pickups held a big slice of the market long before SUVs became mainstream. In 1978, Americans bought 2.2 million full-size pickups, 20 percent of the new vehicles sold. That was a record that stood until last year, when 2.3 million full-size pickups were sold.

"They've always been an important part of the market," said George Pipas, Ford's sales analyst. "The last time something other than a pickup was the best-selling vehicle was 1981," when the Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme was No. 1.

Today, pickups compete with cars for the attention of buyers — and often win. The Honda Accord was the most popular model purchased by women in 2001, according to an analysis of new-vehicle registrations by the Polk Co., but the Ford F-Series was second and the Chevrolet Silverado pickup was fifth.

SUVs were the most popular type of vehicle purchased by women last year, and pickups ranked fourth, behind midsize and small cars but ahead of vans, luxury cars and sports cars. With men, SUVs ranked No. 1 and pickups No. 2.

"A lot of the growth in trucks came with the baby boomer generation, which adopted a go-anywhere, do-anything attitude when they were young and continue to think that way," Pipas said.

In the 1970s and 1980s, baby boomers rejected large American cars in favor of smaller, economical Japanese models, but in the 1990s they embraced gas-guzzling trucks as personal-use vehicles.

"Ironically, the generation that brought you Earth Day is now driving around in big sport-utilities and pickups," Pipas says.

The migration to trucks has been driven by consumer demand, he adds.

"You can't force anything on consumers," Pipas said, citing Ford's failed Ed-

sel as an example of an automaker trying to sell the public a car it didn't want. "The consumer dictates what's built."

Automakers say a key reason consumers trade in cars for trucks is because they crave the utility and versatility trucks provide — more cargo space and the ability to easily switch from carrying people to carrying stacks of lumber.

Wes Brown, an auto industry analyst with Nextrend, a California-based market research firm, disagrees.

"The growth has been because people bought the fashion, not the function," Brown said. "Most people don't use the cargo room or even know they have it."

Sales of SUVs and full-size pickups reached record levels last year because most are driven to offices, grocery stores and Little League games rather than construction sites or the North 40, Brown adds.

As SUVs and pickups gained popularity in the 1990s, a snowball effect encouraged image-conscious consumers to join the growing herd, lest they be caught out of style driving a car or minivan.

"We're very insecure people as consumers," Brown says. "We're worried about how we appear to our peer groups."

Not only did consumers wear Eddie Bauer clothing as a fashion statement, they also drove Eddie Bauer Explorers, an expensive version of the best-selling SUV.

Another reason trucks gained followers, Brown adds, is that there were few cars as interesting or exciting, at least at a price most could afford. The bulk of cars outside the luxury ranks were plain-looking models with front-wheel-drive and four- or six-cylinder engines.

Trucks offered V-8 power and rear-wheel-drive, ingredients that driving enthusiasts favor, and more-aggressive styling,

at prices comparable to those of sedans.

"On the car side, there was nothing American to buy that was really worthwhile," Brown said.

Blue-collar buyers choosing a work vehicle to haul tools and a lunch bucket will settle for a stripped model with vinyl seats, but Brown says, "personal-use buyers get loaded trucks," returning higher profits to the manufacturers.

Well-heeled buyers demanded that trucks have the same creature comforts as their cars — leather seats, CD players and multispeaker sound systems, sunroofs and four doors to make it easier to get in and out.

GM will revamp its full-size pickups for the 2003 model year, and White says GM paid particular attention to the look and feel of the interior, improving what he calls "the creature comforts."

Stereos and other dashboard controls were redesigned for better tactile feel, the seats were reshaped to provide more comfort and support, and engineers made sure the upholstery was "neatly tailored, so there was no wiggle in the sew lines," White says.

A Bose sound system, formerly available only on luxury cars, a rear-seat DVD player and a satellite-

fed XM radio are new options.

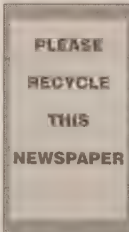
"The people who are buying vehicles have moved from cars to cars," White said. "They're ridding any of this stuff when they buy a truck."

Chevrolet claims to sell more than anyone at transaction volume, more than \$35,000, the bulk of which is in Tahoe and Suburban SUVs and full-size pickups, forcing competitors to protect their turf with price cuts including pickups. Lincoln and Ford "sport-utility trucks," however, with cargo beds like pickups.

Nextrend forecasts that trucks will continue to climb, reaching 10 million in 2007 (as far as its study goes). Most of the growth, however, is in traditional trucks — pickups and vans on pickup chassis.

The growth will be in "premium" vehicles in 2007 (as far as its study goes). Most of the growth, however, is in traditional trucks — pickups and vans on pickup chassis.

The growth will be in "premium" vehicles in 2007 (as far as its study goes). Most of the growth, however, is in traditional trucks — pickups and vans on pickup chassis.



Just one week left to get defective Wilderness tires replaced free

BY JEFF GELLES
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Product recalls usually don't draw much attention, but the one in August 2000 involving tires on Ford sport-utility vehicles declared itself about as loudly as backfire on a '58 T-bird.

For a while, it was tragic, front-page news: Tread was peeling away from Bridgestone/Firestone tires, causing blowouts, rollovers and other accidents. Ultimately, federal investigators linked the tires to 271 deaths.

I bring this up now for two reasons.

One is that, despite the obvious dangers and all the attention these failure-prone tires have received, there may still be some of them on the road — maybe millions of them. Tires are much harder to keep track of than vehicles, so no one really knows.

The other is this: If you still have these tires, you have just one more week — till March 31 — to get them replaced for free, no questions asked, at tire dealers around the country.

Ford made that offer last May to owners of Expedition and Explorer SUVs and F150 and Ranger pickups, all of which might have come with the tires in question: 15-inch, 16-inch or 17-inch Firestone Wilderness AT tires.

For information on your options, call Ford, toll-free, at 1-866-300-1226, or send an e-mail to tireinquiry@ford.com.

(Wilderness AT tires were also original equipment on some Mazda B2000 pickups. For information on Mazda's replacement program, call 1-800-222-5500.)

How do you know if your vehicle has Wilderness ATs, which also may have been installed as replacement tires?

The easiest way is to look at them — the model and size will appear on the sidewall. Ken Zino, a Ford spokesman, says the tires were installed on some vehicles as late as the 2001 model year.

Zino, by the way, says Ford has already replaced more than 10 million tires. "We

think we're largely done, but nobody knows," he said.

In other words, nobody knows how many of the tires were out or blew out before the recall occurred, or were replaced without Ford's knowledge. Firestone's August 2000 recall targeted 14.4 million tires, though the company estimated that fewer than half of them were still on the road.

In October, when people may have been paying less attention because of Sept. 11's terrorist attacks, the target list grew. Under pressure from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Firestone offered to voluntarily replace 3.2 million previously unrecalled Wilderness AT tires.

Firestone insisted the tires weren't defective — it was just trying to move on, says spokeswoman Jill Bratina. There's one catch: If those tires came as original equipment on a 1995-98 Ford Explorer or Mercury Mountaineer, you can get them swapped till March 31 under Ford's replacement program; Firestone's ended Jan. 31.

Given that safety is at issue, Bratina says the company may still replace the tires "on a case-by-case basis." Zino says Ford's deadline also isn't absolute, "but we want these things off now."

You should, too. So look at your tires and make sure you're not putting yourself at extra risk.

If you don't have Wilderness ATs but want to see if your tires are subject to a separate recall, you can visit NHTSA's Web site (www.nhtsa.gov) or call its auto-safety hotline, 1-888-327-4236.

Meanwhile, don't forget your role in tire safety — at least till a new national requirement kicks in that will eventually require new cars to be equipped with systems that monitor tire pressure.

You can't do anything about defective tire materials or tread design. And there's not much to do about your SUV's high center of gravity, other than trading the vehicle in. But you can get a tire gauge and use it.

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1965 Buick Electra 225 fits luxury mold from that era

BY VERN PARKER
MOTOR MATTERS

VERN PARKER
Classic Classics

It wasn't what he thought he was buying for, the 1965 Buick Electra 225, but Josh Brown actually offered it to him.

Four years ago, Brown launched a personal luxury car from the Ford Mustang. He set his sights on the Ford Mustang.

But in the hunt for Brown's wife, he and their young son Joshua. The car was linked to the Thunberg family, who owned a 1965 Buick Electra 225.

Brown was seriously linked to the Thunberg family, who owned a 1965 Buick Electra 225. He set his sights on the Ford Mustang.

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level beneath the dashboard. "That's the air conditioner," Brown comments. He says the vents keep the interior comfortable for the occupants, even on hot days.

A set of 8.75x15-inch B.F. Goodrich white sidewall tires support the Buick on a 126-inch wheelbase. The chiseled lines of the Electra seem to dictate wall-to-wall tail-lights.

Buick designers created the illusion of a single car-wide taillight; however, in reality the center section is a reflector on a door that conceals the gas cap.

A pair of backup lights — one on either side of the indentation for the license plate — is mounted in the massive rear bumper.

Moving away from the rear of the car and turning the corner to the sharply creased rear fender, envision the chrome-plated legend which spells out E-L-E-C-T-R-A-2-2-5. Atop the left rear fender is the antenna.

Adding visually to the length of the Buick are the rear fender skirts, each one almost 5 feet long. On the side of the front fenders are the mandatory Buick design cues, four stylized rectangular portholes.

At the lower leading edge of the front



MOTOR MATTERS

THIS 1965 BUICK ELECTRA 225 in pristine condition beat out a dented Ford Thunderbird for honors when the owner and his family took a vote about which car to buy.

fenders are cornering lights.

The windshield is so wide that, in order to clear a sufficient area, the long wipers overlap each other when at rest. The 120-mph speedometer is visible through the two-spoke steering wheel.

The odometer is now at 88,000 miles, which averages out over the car's 36-year life to less than 2,500 miles annually. That mileage figure helps explain the extraordinary original unrestored condition of the Buick.

Thoughtful convenience features are

plentiful throughout the Buick. All four doors are equipped with a vertical chrome-plated hand grip to make closing each door easier. "Those door grips are darling," Brown affirms.

The driver doesn't have to open the window to adjust the outside mirror because there is a manual remote control inside.

Both front and rear seats feature pull-down armrests. Also, the three ashtrays are equipped with cigarette lighters — just a sign of the times.

While passengers could kick off their

shoes and let the plush carpeting tickle their toes, the driver had to contend with the 1965 version of cruise control. It was simply a dial that could be set at any designated speed. When the driver exceeded that speed, an alarm would sound.

A total of 7,197 Buicks similar to Brown's were manufactured. In 1965 the cars didn't attract that much attention because there were many similar-sized cars. But not many have survived.

"It's unique," Brown explains. "That's what attracted me."

bags have their place in history

BY MATTHEW L. WALD
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

It is remarkable today that children and it is hard to understand why the first happened — 12 years ago, on March 10 — the event was so notable that it was the subject of an article, with two photos, in a magazine.

It was the first collision in which both drivers were protected by air bags.

On a rural road in Culpeper, Va., two Chrysler LeBarons (which, in hind-sight, people might also find hard to crash head-on. Both drivers suffered only minor injuries.

The Insurance Institute of Highway Safety has a historic tint to the event, by pre-arrangement.

It is on display, as Smithsonian museums, said Russ Rader, a spokesman. Well, not quite the Smithsonian's crash-test lab in Rockville.

When we bring groups through, that's the first thing they see when they enter, Rader said. A framed newspaper explains the display.

Two cars went into a few cars in the mid-1980s, nearly all of them by the mid-1980s, Tim Hurd, a spokesman for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

There are now about 153 million vehicles in the country with driver's side air bags, and more than 105 million of those have side bags too, his agency estimates.

They have deployed more than 2,000 times a year — probably much more, but his agency's crash-reporting system does not track that data.

It is said that air bags have saved about 10,000 lives, the majority of them unbelted. They have also killed 202 people, he said.

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Pontiac gets rolling with its new semi-SUV Vibe

BY MATT NAUMAN
KNIGHT-RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

LAS VEGAS — Like the Chrysler PT Cruiser, the Pontiac Vibe is functional, stylish and well-priced.

But the Vibe comes with all-wheel-drive and the Cruiser doesn't.

Like the Toyota Corolla, the Pontiac Vibe is almost certain to be nearly flawless when it comes to its assembly quality and durability.

But the Vibe has a personality and the Corolla doesn't.

Like the Pontiac Aztek, the Pontiac Vibe is a semi-SUV intended to get young buyers into Pontiac showrooms.

But the Vibe is cheaper (starting at \$16,900 and peaking at under \$23,000) and looks good, and the Aztek is pure ugly.

Yes, the 2003 Vibe has a lot going for it.

But the sports wagon (or tall hatchback or crossover vehicle) that will be produced at the NUMMI plant in Fremont and goes on sale at dealerships nationwide in a few months has hurdles to climb, too.

Can the General Motors marketing machine, which has been touting the Vibe for more than a year now, convince young, hip, active buyers to buy a Pontiac?

Will young buyers, especially those in influential California, pick a Vibe over the Toyota

Matrix once they learn the two vehicles are virtually identical?

And does the Vibe's on-road performance match its aggressive exterior and its prelaunch hype?

I can't tell you that young buyers will go ga-ga over the Vibe, although GM and some auto-industry experts think they will.

And I can't tell you whether the Vibe or the Matrix or both will become big hits in 2002.

But I can tell you that the Vibe, and especially the Vibe GT, is a lively, fun, good-value car that ought to please its owners because I got to drive pre-production versions of the Vibe for an afternoon.

The drive was through one of Las Vegas' seedier neighborhoods — no glitter gulch here — and then up and out toward Lake Mead and back.

The route mixed city traffic with long stretches of open road with plenty of sweeping turns and plenty of uphill and downhill driving.

Going there I drove in a base Vibe model painted frosty (white) with a slate (light gray) interior.

The car had a 130-horsepower, 1.8-liter, four-cylinder engine and an optional four-speed automatic transmission.

Standard equipment included dual front air bags, daytime running lamps, air conditioning, AM-FM stereo with a single-disc CD player, tilt steer-



ing and one-touch, fold-flat front-passenger and rear seats.

Options included the automatic transmission, 16-inch aluminum wheels and a power package that included power locks, remote keyless entry, power windows and cruise control.

Dynamically, the car was excellent. Steering was precise. Handling was sure. The brakes — front discs and rear drums — were solid.

The combination of the automatic transmission and the 130-horsepower engine on this 2,780-pound car was better than I had expected.

It certainly wasn't sports-car fast, but it was more than adequate, even on steep portions of the highway. The engine was a bit noisy, however.

On the way down, I drove in a Vibe GT painted lave (bright red) with a graphite (dark gray) interior.

This car had the 180-horsepower, 1.8-liter VTEC four-cylinder engine and a six-speed manual transmission.

Antilock brakes and a leather-wrapped steering wheel were added onto the base model.

Options on the GT I drove included 17-inch aluminum

wheels with wet-weather tires and the same power package as on the base model.

Here, the same strong dynamics were coupled with a much more serious engine and a much more fun-inducing shifter.

The result was a wonderful car, one that would please most driving enthusiasts. The Vibe GT still felt responsive at high speeds.

I didn't drive an all-wheel-drive model and, unfortunately, Pontiac won't sell a Vibe GT AWD — the Vibe I would like to buy.

The Vibe looks a little more

aggressive than a Mazda Protegé, a little more outdoorsy than a Matrix.

On the inside, the car is superb — functional, yet trendy. It retains the cockpit-feel of other Pontiacs with intelligently placed gauges, knobs and buttons.

There's plenty of room for four, and smart storage under the hatch.

Designed for those in their 20s and 30s, the 2003 Pontiac Vibe does a great job of incorporating function with fashion, of combining the understated style and the go-anywhere, take-everything lifestyle of today's young car buyers

AUTO BRIEFS

'Hands-on' safety clinic teaches neophyte SUV drivers how to properly drive off road

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF 4WD CLUBS INC.

RANCHO CORDOVA — Thousands of Northern Californians are buying into the popular sport-utility vehicle market; however, the majority of those owners are not confident that they are ready to take their vehicle off road into the backcountry.

To assist SUV and other four-wheel drive owners, the Capitol City Mountain Goats 4x4 Club will conduct its next four-wheel drive "hands-on" safety clinic April 13 and 14 at the Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area east of Sacramento.

Students may choose either date to participate.

The clinic begins with a classroom slide presentation, followed by several hours of memorable hands-on driving, where students will encounter many simulated obstacles similar to what they would find in

the backcountry.

Students will learn how to "walk" their vehicle, how to drive over trails and big rocks, how to drive in the snow and how to use a strap if they get stuck in the mud or snow.

Doug Sinclair, chief instructor for the course, has taught hundreds of students over the past several years.

"With so many people wanting to get off road to their favorite fishing hole or just get away from the big city life, we offer a clinic for a different kind of driving that opens up a whole new world for exploration and adventure," said Sinclair.

"There is no auto club towing or emergency road service for off-highway drivers, so we teach you common sense and build your confidence for virtually every situation you might encounter while driving off the

highway."

Sinclair said that in addition to teaching driving safety, the course puts strong emphasis on the environment. Students will continually hear instructors talk about treading lightly, not disturbing wildlife and staying on designated trails.

Cost for the one-day course is \$50 for the student-driver and \$5 for each ride-along non-driver. For those choosing to pay at the clinic, the cost is \$55.

The Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation area is located off Highway 50, approximately 20 miles east of Sacramento. Take the Prairie City Road exit and continue on Prairie City Road to White Rock Road. Take a right on White Rock Road and watch for the entrance to the park on the left.

The classroom instruction will be conducted in the Capitol City Mountain Goats clubhouse, located near the entrance to the park.

For more information on the 4x4 safety clinic or to make reservations, contact the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs at 916-381-8300 or 800-4x4-FUNN.

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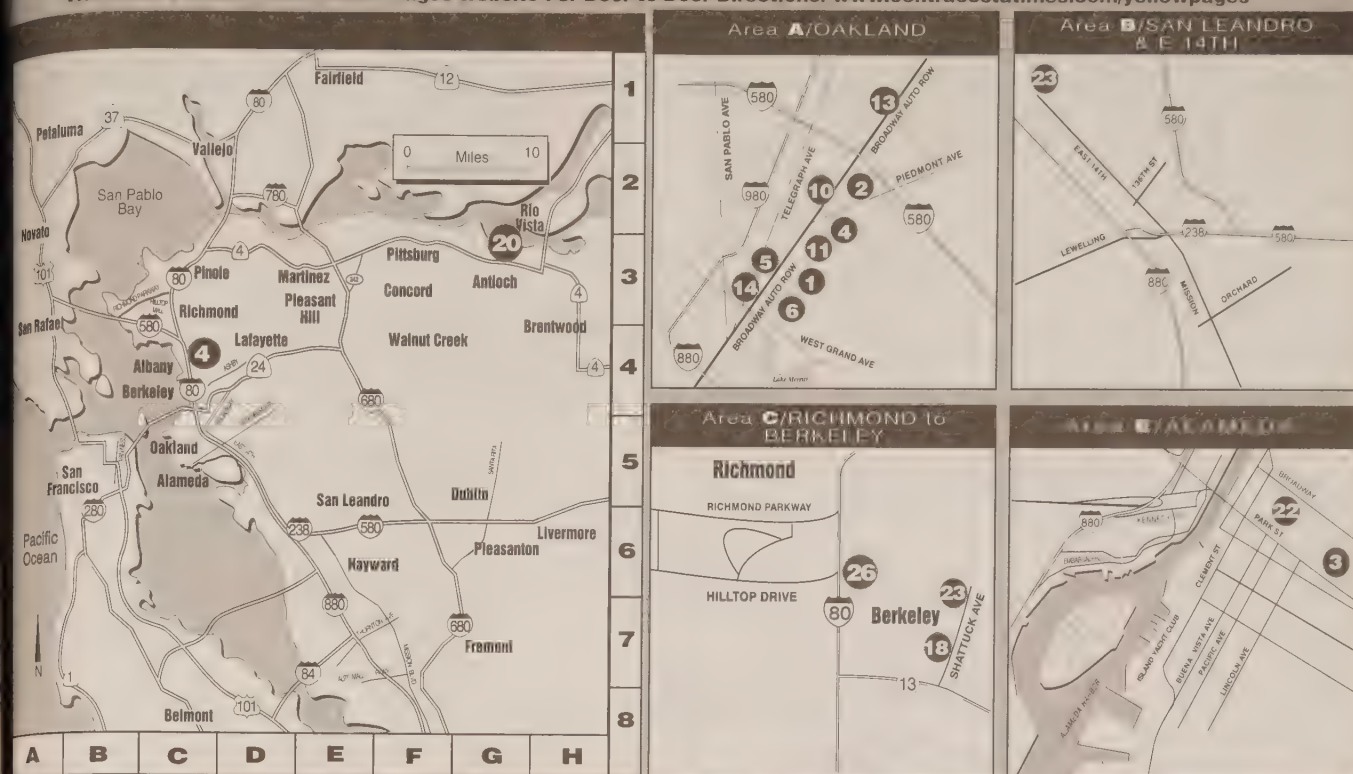
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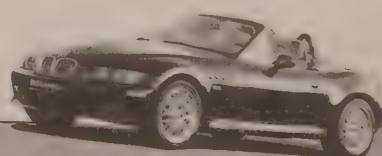
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DOG 3 1/2 yr. S.R. Mackerel, white, pointy, dark brown, 18 lb. no collar, sweetest cat. 1818. Reward call 925-867-1486

GREYHOUND, REWARD, black, white, pointy, dark brown, 18 lb. no collar, sweetest cat. 1818. Reward call 925-867-1486

PURSE lost 3/8/02, black knit w/ long strap. Center Ave. Dun. Hl. Reward. No questions. 925-313-6105

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